[illegible]/ A10

Fr.Jerry M.Orbos, SVD: "Why this commotion and weeping?" Jesus asks each one of us today to trust Him rather than go on being troubled and miserable. Look into your heart. What is it that bothers and burdens you? Surrender them all to the Lord.

WORLD/ A21

Day after Bin Laden warning to US of continuing jihad, Baghdad market car bombing kills 60, hurts 76

JOB Market

100 firms taking part as PDI hosts season's biggest job fair. Companies will conduct on-the-spot screening and hiring

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Sunday, July 2, 2006 ★★ 12 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 204 P18 website: www.inq7.net

A visit to Camp Crame is a walk in the park

By Luige A. del Puerto

YOU CAN'T MISS IT. IT'S THERE FOR EVERYONE to enjoy.

Camp Crame has pocket gardens, benches under the trees and, in the finishing stages, a fountain. You can take a tour of the camp walking on a sidewalk paved with brick-red cement tiles.

For several months now, the Philippine National

A VISIT/ A8

Too many tongues leave GMA tongue-tied

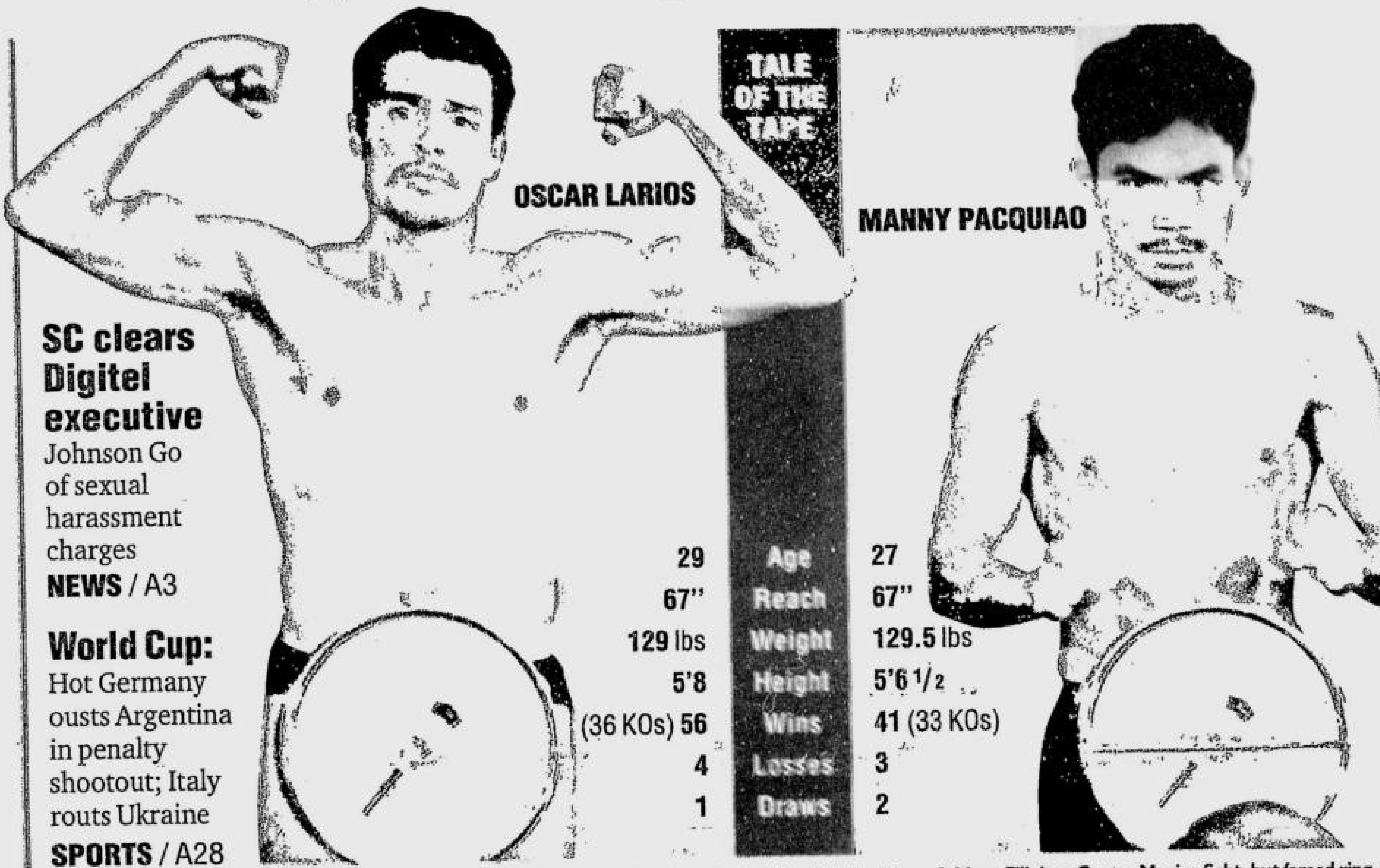
By Armand N. Nocum

MADRID (VIA PLDT)—AFter impressing her hosts with her flawless Spanish, President Macapagal-Arroyo faced the Filipino community here and talked to them in their dialects.

TOO MANY/ A8

ESTE, ANO BA ITO, DI BALA?

'Why single out Borra'

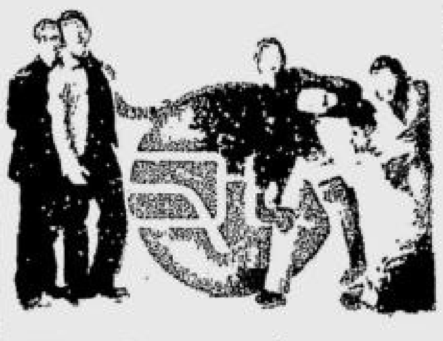


OSCAR LARIOS		MANNY PACQUIAO
29	Age	27
67"	Reach	67"
129 lbs	Weight	129.5 lbs
5'8	Height	5'6 1/2
(36 KOs) 56	Wins	41 (33 KOs)
4	Losses	3
1	Draws	2

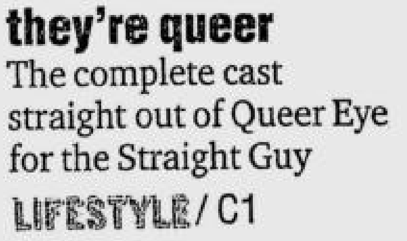
WEIGH-IN at the Discovery Suites for what is being billed as Mano-A-Mano Filipinas Contra Mexico fight, but famed ring announcer Michael Buffer calls it Thrilla in Manila II and dedicates the Pacquiao-Larios match to the Hall of Fame heavyweights who took the country by storm 31 years ago. EDWIN BACASMAS

SC clears Digitel executive Johnson Go of sexual harassment charges **NEWS** / A3

World Cup: Hot Germany ousts Argentina in penalty shootout; Italy routs Ukraine **SPORTS** / A28



They're coming, they're queer The complete cast straight out of Queer Eye for the Straight Guy LIFESTYLE / C1



Tales of the City: Chief Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil toughs it out as head of the Northern Police District but is all heart as mentor to other cops and dad to adopted kids of slain newsman METRO / A18

What this mother of four did with her P198 to start a business from a family tradition she hated SUNDAY BIZ / B4

All Comelec execs must be charged –Pimentel

By TJ Burgonio, Norman Bordadora and Jerome Aning

WHY NOT ALL TOP OFFICIALS of the Commission on Elections? Why single out one man?

Questions were raised yesterday as to why the Office of the Ombudsman was not going after all the officials of the Comelec, including Chair Benjamin Abalos, involved in the scandal-plagued Mega Pacific poll automation deal.

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. acknowledged that the Ombudsman's recommendation to impeach Commissioner Resurreccion Borra was a good first step toward cracking "the tough nut of this complicated case."

"It's better than nothing," he said in an interview. But he stressed that the investigation should not stop at Borra's level but cover all the Comelec officials who had approved the award of the P1.3-billion contract to Mega Pacific.

"It's not fair that only Borra should be singled out. The contract was approved by the entire Comelec. If there is something wrong with the contract—[and] there is—then all the members of the Comelec should be held liable for it," Pimentel said.

He added: "All those who participated in the contract should be charged, including Abalos. They should focus on the contract, not only on Borra's acts.

"Otherwise, it would appear he's being made a sacrificial lamb."

House Minority Leader Francis Escudero said he and his colleagues were ready to impeach Borra but that he saw no reason why Abalos et al. should be left out.

Escudero said the minority had asked the Ombudsman for copies of the resolution on the case.

"That is the reason we asked for documents. To find the reason for singling [Borra] out," he said. "As far as I know, all decisions related to this [case] were collegial, and there is no reason why the

WHY SINGLE/ A9

Pacquiao: This is gift for Filipinos

By Francis Ochoa

THIS IS HIS CHOSEN STAGE. THIS IS his preferred audience—his adoring public. And almost everybody expects Manny Pacquiao to put on a show his people will talk about for a long, long while.

"He's going to perform for his people," said trainer Freddie Roach.

Pacquiao, the Filipino ring icon elevated to national hero status hereabouts, takes on Mexican challenger Oscar "Chololo" Larios at around noontime today in a super featherweight bout that holds more significance than just the "Pacman's" defense of an obscure title.

This is the bout the 27-year-old superstar from General Santos has fought hard to stage: A fight against an opponent with legitimate credentials at the historic Araneta Coliseum, a gift to a country that has seen in him a refreshing diversion from its current political and economic turmoil.

"This is for all my countrymen who always supported and prayed for me," said Pacquiao in Thursday's press conference, the last time the ring sensation spoke to the media.

Pacquiao will earn $1 million for the fight.

The Pacquiao-Larios tiff, scheduled for 12 rounds, is the centerpiece of a 10-bout card dubbed Mano-A-Mano Filipinas Contra Mexico. The bell for the opening bout rings at 8 a.m.

Roach told sportswriters Thursday that there was "no future [for Pacquiao]

PACQUIAO/ A6

How to win against a 'dangerous' fighter

By Francis Ochoa

THE STRATEGY HAS BEEN TATTOOED on many a Manny Pacquiao foe's psyche.

Stay on your feet. Prolong the fight.

"Pacquiao is a dangerous fighter for the first four or five rounds," said Rafael Mendoza, the manager of Mexican Oscar "Chololo" Larios, who the Filipino boxing superstar meets today at the Araneta Coliseum. "After that, he slows down."

As far as Mendoza is concerned, the best chance is for Larios to "control the

HOW TO WIN/ A6

Heirs try to keep legacy of first Filipino to die for democracy in WWI

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE TOMAS CLAUDIO MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY School was named in his honor, but its pupils have no idea who he was.

The kilometer-long main road across Morong, Rizal, bears his full name, but the town library carries only a picture and a brief biography written by his great-grandnephew and other kin.

In a province tirelessly proud of its favorite son, national hero Dr. Jose Rizal, the small family of Tomas Claudio is quietly struggling to keep his fading legacy alive.

Unlike the traditional heroes that grade school pupils look up to, the man died in defense of another country.

Claudio was killed at age 26 in northern France on June 29, 1918—a private in the US Army defending France against German troops.

He was "the first Filipino to die for the sake of democracy in World War I," according to Armel Claudio, his great-grandnephew and biographer.

HEIRS/ A6

PRIDE IN BEING FILIPINO
President Arroyo views the beautiful mural depicting the customs and traditions of the Filipinos during her visit to the Filipino exhibit on Friday at the Centro Cultural de Conde Duque in Madrid. The President is expected to arrive today. *(See story on Page A2.)* MALACANANG PHOTO

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Bicol regions, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers mostly in the afternoon.
SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY CHONA GALANG PDI RESEARCH/07/02/06

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Second FRONT PAGE

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RP, Spain sign pact to fight terror, crime

THE PHILIPPINES AND SPAIN SIGNED AN agreement Saturday aimed at boosting defense ties between the two countries and at increasing cooperation in the fight against terrorism and international crime.

The memorandum of intent was signed when President Macapagal-Arroyo met with Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero and other Spanish leaders, a Malacañang statement said.

Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz said the two countries had to improve their defense ties that are presently limited to logistics cooperation and the exchange of information.

He called for greater dialogue and for the setting up of a joint team to study cooperation in other areas such as education, counterterrorism, fighting transnational crime and maritime security.

"We need to have a strong ally here in the European Union. For them, they need to have an ally in Asean (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and we are their most logical ally," Cruz said.

The Philippines, a former Spanish colony with a largely Roman Catholic populace, is a mainstay of Asean, which includes Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Burma (Myanmar), Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Ms Arroyo said her three-day official visit to Spain had placed the Philippines in Spain's sphere of investments in Asia, noting that at present, the former colonizer was mostly investing in Japan, South Korea and China.

"Since the Philippines is near these three countries, we can make the country the hub of Spain's investment ventures because these countries are our neighbors," the President said shortly before leaving for Manila at 11:30 yesterday, ending her one-week trip to Italy, the Vatican and Spain.

She noted that there was not much commercial and trade relations between the two countries. "But this time, Spanish businessmen have expressed interest in investing in the Philippines," she said.

Spanish businessmen have committed to invest at least $734 million in the Philippines.

To facilitate the investments, Ms Arroyo said she would put up a trade office and assign a "commercial attaché in Spain and strengthen the one-stop shop agency for investments in the Philippines, which is known as the National Economic Business Advisory.

"Sometimes they don't know whom to talk to. They don't know the rules ... there is no commercial attaché," she said.

The President said she also asked the Spanish government to invest in tourism, energy and infrastructure.

Ms Arroyo also announced that Spain had agreed to open its doors to skilled Filipino workers.

Outgoing Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas signed an agreement that would allow skilled workers to enter Spain.

She said one million jobs are awaiting Filipino health care workers there.

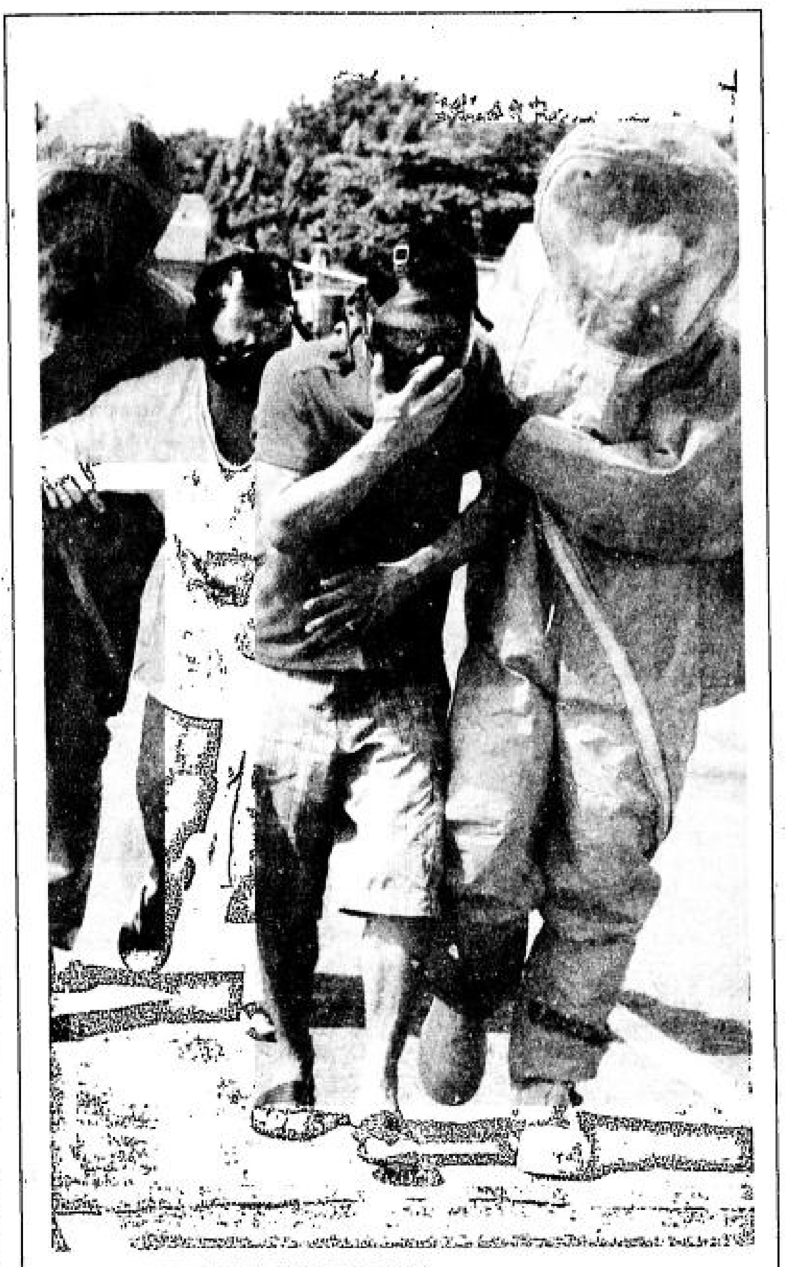
This month, 40 of the initial 100,000 health workers have started working in nursing homes. Although there are now 40,000 Filipinos in Spain, most of them work as domestic help.

To prepare for these job opportunities, Ms Arroyo plans to revive the teaching of Spanish in the Philippines.

"She is seriously considering bringing back the teaching of Spanish in certain school levels that are training professionals for possible work abroad," First Gentleman Mike Arroyo told the INQUIRER.

Sto. Tomas said the previously restrictive immigration laws and inability to speak Spanish had prevented Filipino workers from exploring this work-rich country.

AFP, Armand N. Nocum



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
Two "victims" of a "toxic chemical accident" are dragged to safety by rescuers from the National Disaster Coordinating Council wearing special suits donated by the United States. The drill was held at Camp Aguinaldo and was witnessed by a United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination team which pronounced it "a step forward" in preventing casualties during man-made or natural disasters in the country. JOAN BONDOC

Mike to stay behind for pilgrimage

By Armand N. Nocum

MADRID (VIA PLDT)—FIRST GENtleman Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo will go on a religious pilgrimage to pay homage to his saintly ancestors and will not be with the President when she returns to the country early this morning from an official visit to the Vatican, Italy and Spain.

"My husband will remain in Spain and he will go to the place of Sta. Teresa of Avila because that is where his family came from," President Macapagal-Arroyo said before leaving Spain at noon yesterday.

The Spanish mystic is apparently only one of three saints in the Arroyo ancestral line, originally from Avila, Spain.

Negros Occidental Rep. Ignacio Arroyo earlier said they would be "adding more saints to the family" with the possible beatification of two saintly nuns—Maria Teresa Arroyo y Lacson and Rosario Arroyo y Pidal.

Mother Rosario, who founded the Dominican Sisters of the Most Holy Rosary of the Philippines, is described as having been born in Molo, Iloilo City, in 1916 to "wealthy and pious parents, Don Ignacio Arroyo and Doña Maria Pidal," the grandparents of the Arroyo brothers.

Maria Teresa, who was born in 1884 and died in 1957, was described by the congressman as the "sister of my father Ignacio Arroyo she's a lot closer (to our family)."

The President told reporters she and her family were able to have some private time on this trip. She said they went shopping on June 27, Mike Arroyo's birthday.

According to Juris Soliman, Mike Arroyo's chief of staff, the First Couple went around holding hands when they went shopping.

"There were no politicians, no meetings and no cellular phones. They were just there for family bonding and for spiritual uplift," she said.

RP, Spain ink judicial agreement

CHIEF JUSTICE Artemio V. Panganiban on Friday signed a cooperation agreement with the President of Spain's Supreme Court Francisco Jose Hernando Santiago in Madrid.

The agreement, which the Chief Justice concluded on behalf of the Philippine Judicial Academy and the Judicial and Bar Council, covers mutual cooperation and assistance concerning reforms in judicial education and appointments to the judiciary by both countries.

Hernando is likewise the president of Spain's General Council of the Judiciary which is the equivalent of the Philippines' JBC.

The Philippines and Spain, both civil law countries, share jurisprudential antecedents based on the Civil Code, the Penal Code and a number of mercantile laws. It is expected that with the signing of the agreement, mutually beneficial judicial ties between the two countries would be further enhanced, including reciprocal visits by justices and judges.

Prize Boracay lots now up for grabs

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—PRIZE LOTS ON Boracay Island will be sold through public bidding or direct selling following the issuance of a presidential proclamation reclassifying most of the world-renowned island-resort as alienable and disposable.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said commercial lots would be sold through public bidding while residential properties would be sold directly to buyers based on Republic Act No. 730, which allows the sale of public lands without public auction for residential purposes.

On May 22, President Macapagal-Arroyo issued Proclamation No. 1064 declaring more than half of Boracay Island "alienable and disposable," paving the way for the titling of prize lots on the island-resort.

The 14-page proclamation categorized 628.96 hectares or 60.94 percent of the 1,032-hectare island as alienable and disposable. The remaining areas were classified as forest reserves, protected areas and swamps.

DENR regional executive director in Western Visayas Julian Amador said a committee would be formed to handle the valuation of the land based on the assessed value, zonal value and market price.

The market price of land in the beachfront area ranges from P25,000 to P30,000 per square meter.

Amador said land claimants and those who had occupied properties for years would be given first priority in the public bidding.

But the Boracay Foundation Inc. (BFI), a group of owners, restaurants and hotels who are claimants of properties on the island have rejected the titling of their land through public bidding.

BFI chair Orlando Sacay earlier said they would not want to bid for the land they had been occupying for years and on which they had invested millions of pesos.

Sacay said they preferred that their lots be titled instead through judicial confirmation.

The resort owners insisted that the government wait for the Supreme Court resolution of a lower court ruling that recognized the rights of land claimants on Boracay to have their lots titled.

The government has asked the Supreme Court to reverse lower court rulings that decided that Presidential Proclamation 1801 did not bar the claimants from having their lands titled.

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Inquirer reunites ma, long-lost son

By Madonna T. Virola
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

CALAPAN, ORIENTAL MINDORO—AN INQUIRER article that came out on Mother's Day helped reunite a mother with the son she had not seen for 30 years.

Danny Magpantay, who left as a seaman bound for Bolivia in 1975, finally called his family last June 28, using the cell phone numbers listed in the INQUIRER story, "Mom dreams of seeing son gone for 30 years."

The article, which appeared on May 14, caught the attention of the Brazilian Embassy in Manila which lost no time in contacting the Philippine Embassy in Brazil, where Danny had been last heard from.

On June 28, Danny was finally found in the South American country and he immediately called up his brothers Robert and Edwin in Manila.

The Manila-based brothers immediately went to see their mother Amparo, 71, who was living with a daughter in Pallocan West, Batangas province.

The next day, Danny was able to talk with all the members of his family in Batangas.

"It was heartbreaking," said Leo de Leon, a cousin of Danny's who went to the INQUIRER for help with the story last April.

According to De Leon, Danny said that he was now the head of a water treatment company in Santos in the city of Sao Paolo in Brazil.

"He now speaks only English. He does not know Tagalog anymore," said Robert in Filipino.

Danny has plans to come home next month if his company would allow him, he added.

The Magpantay family had lost touch with Danny some three years after he left. Up till then Danny was writing regularly and sending financial support.

According to De Leon, the first inkling they had that Danny was still alive was about three years ago when a brother of a Calapan-based journalist, Jaylord Marasigan, told them he saw Danny at a bar in Sao Paolo with a group of seamen.

Amparo stubbornly held on to the belief that her son was still alive.

"If he's gone, he would make us feel it," she said when she was interviewed for the Mother's Day article.

Gokongwei brod cleared

No illegal dismissal, no sexual harassment, SC rules

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE SUPREME Court has ruled that a former executive of the Gokongwei-owned Digitel Telecommunications Phil. had not been illegally dismissed or harassed sexually, reversing an appellate court ruling that sustained her complaint and awarded her back wages and separation pay.

The SC decision, issued on June 26 and released yesterday, upheld the National Labor Relations Commission's earlier ruling that Mariquit Soriano had voluntarily resigned from Digitel in June 2000.

Soriano had brought the case to the Court of Appeals, claiming she was "constructively dismissed" from Digitel because the sexual harassment she allegedly suffered from two top Digitel executives had forced her to resign.

A constructive dismissal is a form of termination where the intention to terminate is not stated explicitly but demonstrated by the words or conduct of the employer, such as reduction in pay, demotion or workplace abuse.

Soriano identified the two executives as Johnson Robert Go, the Digitel senior executive vice president, and Eric Severino, senior vice president for the business division.

Go, who died in December 2004 before the SC could resolve the case, was a younger brother of business tycoon John Gokongwei whose family owns Digitel.

Appeal rejected

The appellate court set aside the NLRC ruling and rejected an appeal from Go and Severino.

Digitel, Go and Severino questioned the CA ruling before the high tribunal.

In its decision, the high court said Soriano failed to prove that she had been sexually harassed. It said the Court of Appeals erred when it decided in her favor.

"Any employee, male or female, may charge an employer or superior with sexual harassment, but the claim must be well substantiated ...Mariquit's claim does not pass the test of credibility," the Supreme Court said.

"The findings of the NLRC, which adopted those of the labor arbiter, being in accordance with the evidence on record, it was [an] error for the appellate court to give due cause to Mariquit's petition for certiorari," the SC said.

The tribunal also ruled that Soriano would not be entitled to any monetary benefits from Digitel.

"Mariquit having failed to prove that she was constructively dismissed, a discussion of the award of back wages, separation pay and damages is rendered unnecessary," it said.

According to the SC, the statements that Soriano presented to support her sexual harassment claim were hearsay. She also failed to present any witness to corroborate her claim that she had been harassed several times in 1999 and once in 2000.

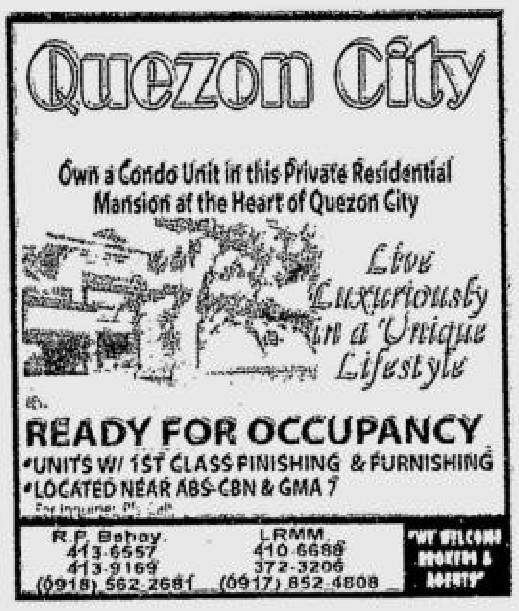
Affidavits

Go and Severino presented affidavits of eyewitnesses, the court said.

The SC noted that Soriano only raised the issue about the alleged sexual harassment in May 2001, when she filed criminal complaints against Go and Severino, 11 months after her resignation and two years after the first of five alleged instances of harassment took place.

While there was no fixed period during which sexual harassment cases should be filed, delays in filing must be "justifiable or reasonable as not to cast doubt on its merits," the SC said.

The high tribunal also said the report from a clinical psychologist stating that Soriano's behavioral problems stemmed from the trauma she experienced from the sexual harassment and which the CA gave weight to, failed to show how Soriano was sexually harassed.



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RP helping Singapore in probe of OFW's death

By Nikko Dizon

THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN Singapore is coordinating with the city-state's police in its investigation of the death of a Filipino domestic worker who reportedly fell from a high-rise apartment last Friday.

Singaporean police took another Filipino domestic worker into custody in relation to the incident, the Department of Foreign Affairs said in a statement yesterday.

The embassy has asked Singaporean authorities for permission to see the woman, Ambassador Belen Anota said in her report to the DFA.

The identities of the OFWs were withheld by the DFA as their families had yet to be informed of the incident.

The DFA said the victim fell from the 18th floor of a government housing project in Bedok South.

Her remains were identified yesterday morning in the presence of an embassy representative, her employment agency and police at the Singapore General Hospital mortuary.

Last May, Filipino maid Guen Aguilar was sentenced to 10 years in prison after she was found guilty of killing fellow OFW Jane La Puebla whose body she had dismembered.

In the United Arab Emirates, a Filipino woman is the object of a police manhunt for her alleged involvement in the trafficking of Filipino workers there.

The DFA withheld the name of the suspect, citing the ongoing investigation.

In another statement yesterday, the DFA said two of the suspect's latest victims were Filipino women who arrived in Dubai as tourists.

The victims, whose identities also were not revealed by the DFA, will be repatriated next week.

In his report to the DFA home office, Consul General Antonio Curameng said the OFWs were able to escape from the woman and immediately sought the help of the consulate in Dubai.

Curameng said the consulate was coordinating with UAE authorities to bust the syndicate.

Women on night shift more prone to cancer, study shows

By Jerome Aning

WOMEN WHO WORK AT NIGHT, like those employed in call centers, could be prone to breast cancer and menstrual problems, according to an Institute for Occupation Health and Safety Development official.

Noting the increasing number of women working the graveyard shift—usually from 6 p.m. to 6 p.m. IOHSD executive director Noel Colina said this type of working arrangement could pose health risks to women.

He cited a study by the US-based Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center which found that women who worked the graveyard shift could face up to 60 percent increased risk of breast cancer compared to those who never worked at night.

The study showed that exposure to light at night may affect the production of melatonin, a hormone which is mainly produced by the pineal glands during the night, Colina said.

"Night-time sleep deprivation or exposure to light at night somehow interrupts melatonin production, which in turn stimulates the ovaries to kick out extra estrogen, a known hormonal promoter of breast cancer," he said.

Aside from the increased risk of breast cancer, night-time work may also interfere with the menstrual cycle.

"Painful menstruation (dysmenorrhea), absence of menstruation (amenorrhea) and heavy menstruation (menorrhagia) are conditions associated with women working the graveyard shift," Colina said.

He noted that this was the main reason pregnant women were not allowed to work at night as this could adversely affect the health of both mother and child.

"Although the study isn't conclusive, it provides us [with] pointers on how to address and protect the occupational health and safety of working women at call centers," Colina said.

The IOHSD official said call center companies should provide free and regular breast cancer screening for their employees as well as seminars on how to prevent breast cancer.

They should also sponsor regular seminars on health and safety in the workplace and set up health and safety committees, he added.

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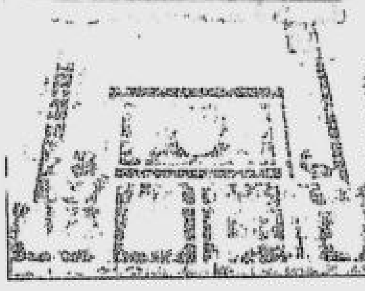

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Puno against arming civilians

INTERIOR SECRETARY Ronaldo Puno is discouraging the arming of private citizens in the light of the serial killings of militants and journalists.

Puno has ordered the Department of Interior and Local Government to look into a proposal limiting the issuance of guns to persons in uniform.

He said the DILG and the PNP, through its Private Security and Protection Office (PSPO), may well provide citizens with security instead of allowing them to arm themselves for protection.

"A firearm only gives us a false sense of security," Puno said.

Puno cited past incidents where private individuals with permits to carry firearms abused the privilege by using their guns to threaten and intimidate other civilians, particularly during traffic altercations and other spats.

"Some of these supposedly minor incidents ended tragically," he said, because of the use of firearms.

Puno, the concurrent National Police Commission chair, said that instead of allowing private individuals, including journalists, to arm themselves, the PSPO would take care of their security.

"(The PSPO) has more than enough personnel specifically trained for this type of job," Puno said.

He said the PSPO would treat each case individually and draw up a threat analysis to determine how many security personnel should be assigned to a person under threat and how many and what type of firearms should be issued to his or her guards.

Norman Bordadora

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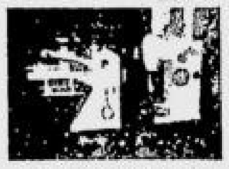
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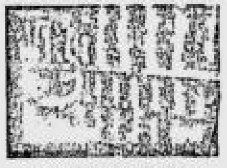
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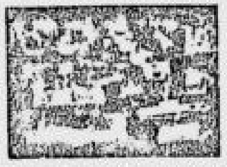
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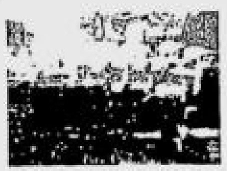
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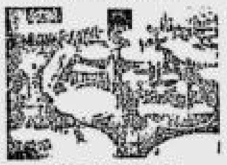
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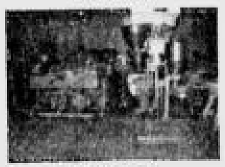
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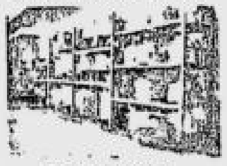
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AMRSWP BIENNIAL CONVENTION
June 26 - 29, 2006
Capuchin Retreat Center - Lipa City, Batangas
CONCLUDING STATEMENT
OUR HEARTS CRY OUT!

Gathered together for the Sixth Biennial Convention of the Association of Major Religious Superiors of Women in the Philippines (AMRSWP), we, the Servant-Leaders of 114 women religious congregations of the Philippines, together with our Mission Partners, heard A RENEWED CALL TO PROPHETIC SPIRITUALITY amid the long drawn-out crisis in our society. As we share in the Passion of Christ for wounded humanity, we reflect on our situation and cry out with Jeremiah:

Oh, my suffering, my suffering!
How I writhe!
Oh, the walls of my heart!
My heart moans within me,
I cannot be silent:
For ...
Disaster overtakes disaster,
For all the land has been ravaged.
(Jeremiah, 4, 19-20)

WE ARE HORRIFIED

at the all out war proclamation of the President that will intensify militarization in many parts of the country and will surely give rise to more violations of human rights..

We call for a cessation of violence and urge respect for peoples' rights

WE ARE ENRAGED

at the unabated extra judicial killings of peasants, workers, Church people, journalists, lawyers, activists, especially the 71 women among them.

We call for: a stop to these killings, punishment of the perpetrators, and compensation for the victims' families.

WE ARE SADDENED

by the continuous violence perpetrated against women and children and single out at this moment the rape of Nicole in Subic.

We express our support to Nicole, her family and lawyers in their uphill struggle to obtain justice for this heinous crime.

WE LAMENT

the wanton rape of our land in the 23 mining sites prioritized by the administration's Mining Revitalization Program and the untold sufferings of thousands of displaced fisherfolk, farmers and indigenous peoples driven away by these projects from their homes and places of livelihood. The next generation will surely curse us for allowing this wiping out of their heritage.

We say no to this destructive large-scale mining projects under the existing policy, call for the repeal of the Mining Act of 1995, and urge an enactment of an alternative policy that promotes responsible and patriotic stewardship as well as safeguards human rights.

We protest against all activities that further degrade our environment!

WE ARE INDIGNANT

at the deception and manipulation with which the Cha-Cha is being forced on us in defiance of the Constitution and misusing the concept of people's initiative - all for the perpetuation of those in power.

We are alarmed by the proposals to open our national patrimony to foreign ownership, to remove the current provisions that protect the civil liberties of citizens, to delete the provision that limits the powers of the President to declare Martial Law, to allow the presence of nuclear arms and foreign military bases in the country.

We call for an election of national officials in 2007. We say no to charter change at this time. We enjoin people to be vigilant in opposing this utter disregard for legal processes and genuine people's participation.

WE ARE GRIEVED

by the mindless and ruthless demolition of the houses of urban poor communities in the name of development and decongestion. We denounce the land conversions, the ineffective land reform and other factors that cause forced migration of the rural poor to the cities.

We plead for a cessation of all demolitions and evictions of people and demand the fulfillment of their basic necessities and their active participation in decision making that affects them.

As one voice, we call on those in authority to put an end to the sufferings of our people by immediate and effective action.

To all our Sisters and Lay Partners, we urge a concrete living out of our prophetic calling:
by documenting, exposing and denouncing all forms of abuses and violations of human rights;
by relentlessly searching, pursuing and defending truth, and by conducting peace- building missions.
We announce and embody the Good News by our vigilance and perseverance in our solidarity with our people in the struggle for justice as we journey together towards the FULLNESS OF LIFE.

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and the
DELEGATES TO THE SIXTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE AMRSWP
CAPUCHIN RETREAT CENTER, LIPA CITY
JUNE 29, 2006

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, July 2, 2006
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24

Death is not from God

God did not make death, nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living. Since he has created everything, all creatures of the universe are for our good; there is no deadly poison in them and the netherworld has no dominion over the earth, because immortal is not submitted to death.

Indeed God created man to be immortal in the likeness of his own nature, but the envy of the devil brought death to the world, and those who take his side shall experience death.

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15

Christ became poor

You excel in everything: in the gifts of faith, speech and knowledge; you feel concern for every cause and, besides, you are first in my heart. Excel also in this generous service.

You know well the generosity of Christ Jesus, our Lord. Although he was rich, he made himself poor to make you rich through his poverty.

I do not mean that others should be at ease and you burdened. Strive for equality; at present give from your abundance what they are short of, and in some way they also will give from their abundance what you lack. Then you will be equal and what Scripture says shall come true: To the one who had much, nothing was in excess; to the one who had little, nothing was lacking.

Gospel: Mark 5:21-43 (or 21-24, 35-43)

Jairus' daughter

Jesus then crossed to the other side of the lake and while he was still on the shore, a large crowd gathered around him. Jairus, an official of the synagogue, came up and seeing Jesus, threw himself at his feet and asked him earnestly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her so that she may get well and live."

Jesus went with him and many people followed, pressing from every side. Among the crowd was a woman who had suffered from bleeding for 12 years. She had suffered a lot at the hands of many doctors and had spent everything she had, but instead of getting better, she was worse. Since she had heard about Jesus, this woman came up behind him and touched his cloak thinking, "If I just touch his clothing, I shall get well." Her flow of blood dried up at once, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her complaint.

But Jesus was conscious that healing power had gone out from him, so he turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" His disciples answered, "You see how the people are crowding around you. Why do you ask who touched you?" But he kept looking around to see who had done it. Then the woman, aware of what had happened, came forward trembling and afraid. She knelt before him and told him the whole truth.

Then Jesus said to her, "Daughter, your faith has saved you; go in peace and be free of this illness."

While Jesus was still speaking, some people arrived from the official's house to inform him, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Master any further?" But Jesus ignored what they said and told the official, "Do not fear, just believe." And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James and John, the brother of James.

When they arrived at the house, Jesus saw a great commotion with people weeping and wailing loudly. Jesus entered and said to them, "Why all this commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep."

They laughed at him. But Jesus sent them outside and went with the child's father and mother and his companions into the room where the child lay. Taking her by the hand, he said to her, "Talitha kumi!" which means: "Little girl, get up!"

The girl got up at once and began to walk around. (She was 12 years old.) The parents were astonished, greatly astonished. Jesus strictly ordered them not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

Commentary

We hear that our God rejoices only in life, creation and justice, and that we were created in his image to be imperishable. We must remember this in the midst of evil, injustice and violence. And we must endeavor to live with charity, relieving others, in imitation of the poor man Jesus, sharing with others as a community. Jesus is the Lord of life, bringing the daughter of Jairus back from the dead, and healing the woman who had been excluded (made dead) in her community for twelve years. We are his community commanded to be a place of life, healing, medical care, nourishment for others here now.

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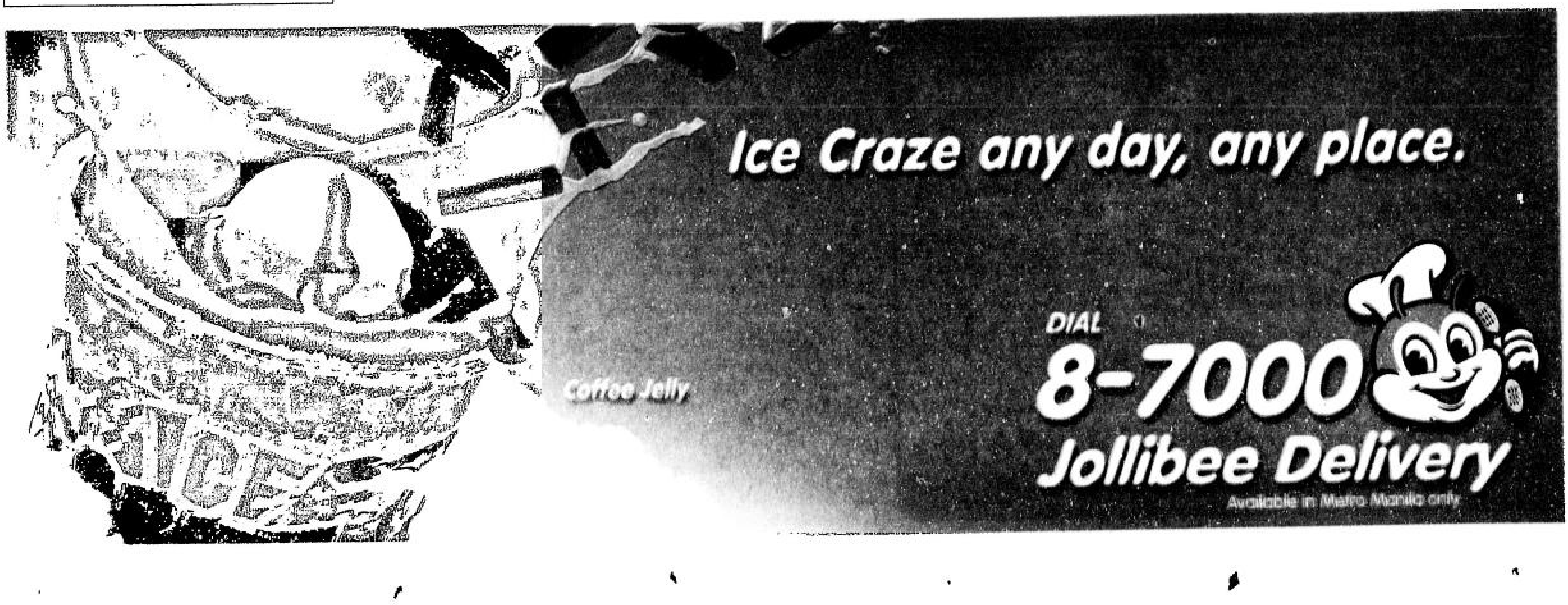
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Pacquiao: This is a gift for my countrymen

From page A1

without a win," meaning a loss to Larios could create major kinks in the projected third meeting between Pacquiao and Mexican Erik Morales in November.

For Larios, this is more than just a shot at the WBC international super- featherweight title Pacquiao currently holds, a belt normally contested by boxers ranked 11th and above in their division. This is the 29-year-old Guadalajara, Mexico, native's biggest fight in his battle-scarred career—purse-wise and opponent-wise.

Larios will be paid $450,000 for this bout, and a victory would open doors to more lucrative fights. But if Roach's fight plans work as he is confident they will, Larios can very well go ahead and cash that paycheck as his retirement fund.

A quick end

"Manny's going to end it quickly with this guy," Roach said. "That's how to deal with [Larios]—jump on him right away because he's a slow starter. I don't want Manny to play with this guy." *(See related story on Page A1.)*

"So don't take your eyes off the television screen," said Roach, who will be in Pacquiao's corner for the 10th time in the Filipino's 46-fight career. "Things are going to happen pretty quickly."

Pacquiao's 41-3-2 win-loss-draw record is highlighted by 32 knockouts.

Half-pound difference

Roach said that the Larios camp knows what Pacquiao, a former two-time world champion, is planning to do but "there's nothing [Larios] can do about it."

Pacquiao was all business during yesterday's weigh-in at the Discovery Suites, where he tipped the scales at 129 1/2 lbs. Larios, a former WBC super bantamweight champion, came in half a pound lighter at the weigh-in emceed by famed ring announcer Michael Buffer.

Buffer lent further significance to the fight, calling it the Thrilla In Manila II and dedicating the bout to the two Hall-of-Fame heavyweights who took the country by storm almost 31 years ago with a fight that remains a classic to this day—Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier.

Quiet lion with sore tooth

As in his final training Saturday afternoon, Pacquiao only offered an obligatory smile for the cameras during the traditional pose of contenders.

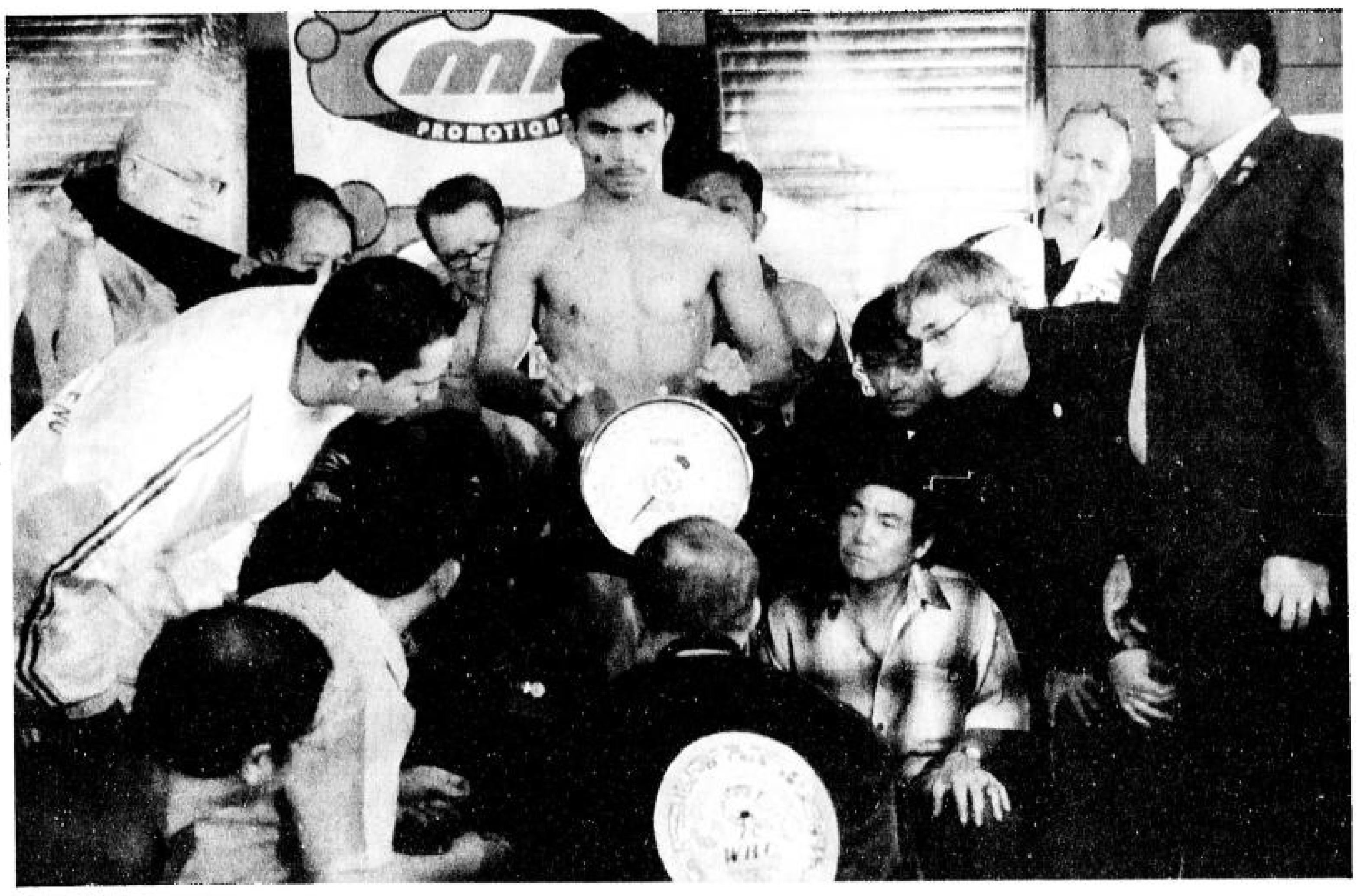
Other than that, he was serious and quiet, retreating to a heavily guarded room right after the weigh-in and exuding as much charm as a lion with a sore tooth.

"He was a little cranky," Roach said, smiling. "And that's usually a good sign before the fight."

Closeted in the privacy of a sealed-off room, Pacquiao later had a heavy lunch consisting of fried lapu-lapu, bulalo and fried chicken. His handlers hope to have him at around 140 lbs at fight time. He lightened up a bit after the meal, leafing through a freshly published book about him.

Smiling challenger

But he remained reserved, as if in deep thought.



THE ADORED RING LEADER is all business during the weigh-in on Saturday. Members of Team Pacquiao and Larios's men keep a keen eye on the scale which shows the Pacman weighing in at 129 1/2 lbs.

EDWIN BACASMAS

In contrast, Larios (56-4-1, 38 knockouts) was all smiles during the weigh-in, a picture of a boxer confident that his camp has gotten Pacquiao all figured out.

"In front of his (Pacquiao's) public, he wants very, very bad to win by a knockout," said Rafael Mendoza, Larios's manager. "The longer the fight is, the better it is for Larios."

But Roach said Larios could easily be lured into a brawl, something that fits Pacquiao's style just fine.

'For you and me'

"He's going to try and move backwards against Manny and be out of character," Roach pointed out. "But once Manny lands that first blow, he (Larios) is going to revert back to who he is."

Roach admitted that Pacquiao might try to showboat a little too much in front of his compatriots, but even that isn't a cause for concern.

Drawback

"That's just a drawback of fighting at home," said the American trainer. "Sometimes you fight for the people more than for yourself."

Asked whether Pacquiao will try to be too flashy for the crowd or display the same restraint that was the game plan in his dismantling of Morales early this year, Roach replied: "He's going to do a little of both. He's going to fight for you and me."

How to win against a 'dangerous' fighter

From page A1

first six rounds" of the match.

"If we can do that, we have a good chance, a very good chance to win," he said.

'Larios won't last'

Freddie Roach, the American trainer largely credited for Pacquiao's metamorphosis into a complete boxer, could only snicker after being told of Mendoza's statement. While Pacquiao will, indeed, look for a quick way to end the bout, Roach doesn't see the Filipino losing steam as the fight progresses.

"We're ready to go the full 12 rounds," Roach said. Then, in a voice thick with an equal mix of confidence and cockiness, he added, "I just don't think Larios is going to last that long."

Roach knows what he's talking about.

Killer left

Working his 10th fight with the Filipino, Roach has seen Pacquiao's transformation from a rock-fisted, hard-punching southpaw who spends ring time waiting for the chance to land his killer left straight into a more complete fighter "who fights with two hands now."

"His defense is better, he has more head movement and he just keeps getting better and better," Roach said.

The Larios camp is basing its fight plan on images picked up from Pacquiao's failed title bid against Mexican Juan Manuel Marquez in 2004, where the Filipino floored the world champion three times in the first round but failed to finish him off, coming up with a disappointing draw.

Early rounds crucial

Mendoza believes that is the Pacquiao that will show up today at the Big Dome.

"He's going to fight the way he fought Marquez," Mendoza said. "That, I know. He's going to jump at Larios in the first round and try to end the match early. You see the percentages of Pacquiao's knockdowns, everything is in the early rounds."

But it is precisely because of that fight against Marquez that Roach was able to convince Pacquiao to overhaul his style.

Mexican destroyer

"He's a more complete fighter now," Roach said.

"I fear nobody with Manny Pacquiao," he added. "Nobody in the world. I'd put Manny Pacquiao against Mike Tyson."

And Larios is no Tyson.

In fact, many believe that Larios is far from the level of Erik Morales and Marco Antonio Barrera, two Mexican ring icons Pacquiao stopped in the late rounds. Pacquiao halted Barrera in the 11th round in 2003. Early this year, he gave Morales his first-ever taste of defeat with a knockout in the 10th round, a victory that cemented Pacquiao's reputation as a Mexican destroyer.

Pacman tank is full

That's why Roach is confident of a Pacquiao win, whether the fight ends early or goes the distance, despite reports that Pacquiao reported to training two weeks behind schedule.

Larios, who trained earlier, is hoping he can stretch the match to take advantage of his supposed edge in stamina.

But Roach isn't worried about Pacquiao's gas tank.

"Manny's in the best shape of his life, he's going to be tough to beat," Roach declared, showing little concern for how long Larios could stay on his feet.

Heirs try to keep legacy of first Filipino ...

From page A1

Morong Mayor Joseph Buenaventura described him as among the earliest overseas Filipino workers.

Plantation worker

Sparse details of Claudio's short life may be gathered from his page-long biography, the marker on his monument in the plaza of Morong and a resolution passed by the town council in March.

He was born in Morong, where he completed part of his high school education.

In 1914, he traveled to Hawaii to work at a sugar plantation. His parents and two siblings finally realized where he was when he started sending money from Hawaii.

He found work where he could—at a pineapple plantation, as a fisherman in Alaska, at a post office, and as an elevator boy.

When World War I broke out and intensified, pitting more and more countries against one another, Claudio volunteered for the US Army.

He was admitted in November 1917, and was sent to France the following month.

Private Claudio never made it back to his native soil. (A marker at the elementary school puts the date of his death at Oct. 6, 1919. But Armel Claudio said that the date was erroneous and that he was working to have it changed.)

Claudio's remains were transported to the Philippines in 1921 and interred at the North Cemetery in Manila, according to Demetria San Juan, vice president for administration of the University of Rizal System.

'Ready to sacrifice'

In a speech during the program marking Claudio's 88th death anniversary last Thursday, Mayor Buenaventura noted how the man was "ready to sacrifice not only for the pragmatic reason of earning a living [but also] for the noble cause of world peace and democracy."

After Claudio's death, his memory enjoyed a few years of popularity in Morong. A monument was built in his honor at the town plaza in the 1960s.

But his memory waned with the passing of the years.

The program on Thursday marked the first time Morong commemorated his death anniversary, thanks to a town resolution passed in March.

"We usually hold short programs only during his birthday (May 7)," a teacher at the Tomas Claudio Memorial Elementary School told the INQUIRER.

The program included a parade that began at the school, where pupils had gathered as early as 6:30 a.m., waving paper flags of the Philippines and France (which carry the same tricolor combination).

Asked why they were waving the flags, the second graders said their teachers had told them to do so.

Asked who Tomas Claudio was, they all smiled; one of them shook his head.

REVIVING A FAST-FADING MEMORY. Reproduction of photo of Private Tomas Claudio now hangs in the municipal library in Morong, Rizal. He was honored in his native Morong Thursday on his 88th death anniversary. He was killed in France during World War I.

LYN RILLON

A number of the teachers admitted that they got to discuss Claudio and his life with their pupils only once or twice a year, when there were programs held in his honor.

Some of them said they would integrate his life story into their history lessons.

Sadly, however, there is no mention of Claudio in the books they are using. And apart from photocopies of his biography, his picture and that of his brother and sister placed atop bookshelves in the town library, information is scarce.

Memorial foundation

Still, the family intends to keep his memory alive.

Armel Claudio established the Tomas Claudio Memorial Foundation in 1998, for the purpose of raising public awareness of his esteemed relative.

The efforts are paying off, judging from the presence of two officials of the French Embassy at the Thursday commemoration.

"We are here to pay homage to the sacrifice of Tomas Claudio," Bernard Regnauld-Fabre, embassy first counselor and deputy head of mission, told the small assembly at the town plaza.

"This is our way of expressing our thanks to him and to the Philippines," Fabre told the INQUIRER after the program.

Fabre and embassy press attache Carolle Lucas were invited by the foundation and the municipal government to attend the program.

The last time French officials attended a program for Claudio was in 1999, when the then ambassador joined the wreath-laying ceremony.

Fabre said there was no reference to Claudio in France. He said that aside from 1.5 million young Frenchmen, volunteer soldiers of different races also perished in the war.

"But [Claudio] is the only Filipino we know so far who was killed trying to defend France during the First World War," Fabre said.

Still standing

The house where Claudio was born in 1892 is still standing in the middle of the crowded town.

Armel Claudio said the ground floor had been renovated, but the walls and posts on the upper floor had never been replaced.

The house is now a symbol of both the past and the impatient future: Relatives occupying the house had put up an Internet shop on the ground floor.

But there is no stopping Armel Claudio from pursuing his mission.

Now he is thinking of turning the house where his great-granduncle was born into a museum.

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NDF, Jamby seek resumption of stalled peace talks

By TJ Burgonio

FACED WITH AN ALL-OUT MILITARY OFfensive, the communist-led National Democratic Front now wants to go back to the negotiating table after peace talks with the government bogged down in 2004.

Luis Jalandoni, chair of the NDF negotiating panel, and opposition Sen. Jamby Madrigal have signed a joint communique in the Netherlands urging the government to resume the stalled peace negotiations.

The communique was drawn up shortly after the senator met with Jalandoni, exiled communist party leader Jose Ma. Sison and NDF monitoring committee chair Fidel Agcaoili for two-day talks on the situation in Manila.

In an e-mailed statement from his base in Utrecht, Sison said the NDF and the opposition could explore ways to accelerate the peace negotiations towards a just and lasting peace.

Madrigal and the NDF panel agreed that "formal talks between the GRP [Government Republic of the Philippines] and the NDF should be resumed as soon as possible."

"The all-out war policy proclaimed by the Arroyo regime is not the answer but in fact will lead to further economic ruin and further escalate human rights violations and will create more internally displaced persons consisting mostly of women, elderly and children," the communique said.

Presidential Chief of Staff Michael Defensor, however, belittled Madrigal's efforts to revive the stalled peace talks.

"For Senator Madrigal, if she really believes in the back channeling effort (with the communists) and uplifting poverty in the country, all she has to do is to give up her lands," said Defensor, who figured in a verbal spat with the senator last year.

President Macapagal-Arroyo ordered the military to crush the 37-year-old communist insurgency in two years and ordered the release of P1 billion to fund the campaign.

Brushing aside bishops' appeals to resume the talks instead, the government also warned businessmen against paying "revolutionary taxes" to the rebels and bared plans to have Sison extradited from the Netherlands.

But Sison scoffed at the government's plan to seek his expulsion from the Netherlands to face murder charges here following the abolition of the death penalty law.

Sison reiterated that he was beyond the legal reach of the Arroyo administration because of the absence of an extradition treaty between the two countries.

The NDF withdrew from the peace talks in August 2004 in protest of its listing as a terrorist organization by the United States and other foreign countries.

Jalandoni and Madrigal said the question about the "terror listing" should be resolved by the government and the NDF.

In the communique, Jalandoni and Madrigal indicated that the killings of over 200 militant and Left-wing activists under the Arroyo administration were a pressing issue that needed to be addressed at the resumption of the talks.

"The gross human rights violations, particularly on the extrajudicial killings and involuntary disappearances of political and legal activists have become a prejudicial question which can immediately be resolved by the GRP condemning and ordering the immediate investigation and prosecution of those liable for such actions," they said. *With reports from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

MILF protests alleged violation of ceasefire

COTABATO CITY—The Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) has filed a protest against the military for alleged violation of the three-year-old ceasefire agreement after one of its camps came under artillery fire.

Eid Kabalu, MILF spokesperson, said soldiers fired howitzers into the MILF's Camp Omar in Barangay Tatapan in Shariff Aguak, Maguindanao.

"Our Coordinating Committee on the Cessation of Hostilities filed the protest last night. It was received by the government. The military's shelling against us is a serious violation of the existing ceasefire agreement," Kabalu said.

Kabalu said the howitzers also targeted the villages of Matangao and Buloy.

"These are civilian areas although residents have already fled because of the fighting," he said.

Brig. Gen. Benjamin Dolorfino, deputy commander of the military's Southern Command, told the INQUIRER the MILF had a right to file a protest.

But he doubted soldiers were involved in the shelling. "The (civilian volunteers) in the area have mortars also. I do not know if there were soldiers involved," he said.

Dolorfino said members of the international ceasefire monitoring team met in Manila Friday night and discussed the protest filed by the MILF. But he said he was not privy to the results of the meeting.

As of 1:45 p.m. yesterday, explosions from heavy artillery could still be heard from Barangay Labolabo, also in Shariff Aguak, where the INQUIRER saw about 50 evacuees.

Kabalu said they were informed that the shelling came from Barangay Salvo in nearby Datu Piang town.

Presidential peace adviser Jesus Dureza confirmed the government panel had received the MILF protest.

"The government ceasefire team and the International Monitoring Team (IMT) will also determine if there was a violation of the ceasefire agreement. They will also find out who are involved in the hostilities and who started it," Dureza said by phone. *Jeoffrey Maitem, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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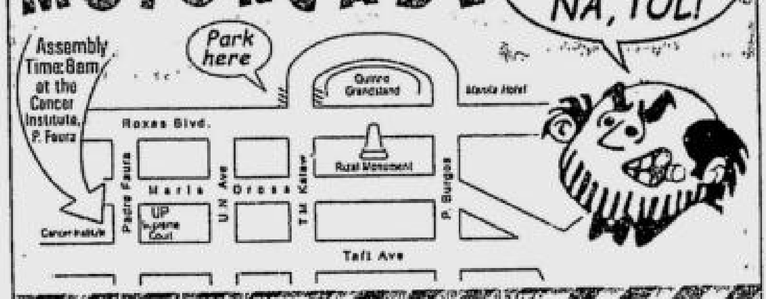

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		3pm	ART EXHIBIT LAUNCH	Vargas Museum, UP Diliman
		8am	FEDERATION MISSIONS IN DAVAO	Davao City, Davao
SATURDAY	8 July	8am	NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BLOODLETTING	Danarra Hotel, QC/Nationwide
		4pm	BARRIO FIESTA NG BALIK-BETAN	MWSS Multi-purpose, Balara
TUESDAY	11 July	11am	FELLOWSHIP GOLF / CHESS	Valley Golf Club, Antipolo
WEDNESDAY	12 July	1 pm	FIGURE / LANDSCAPE PAINTING	Executive House, UP Diliman
		7:30pm	FOLKWAYS	Bahay Alumni, UP Diliman
FRIDAY	14 July	10am	MASS/TAMBAYAN CELEBRATIONS	UP Chapel / Diliman Tambayan
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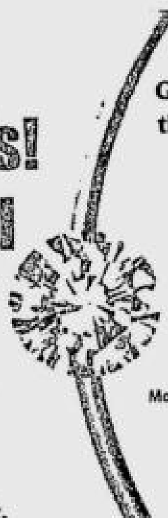

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PCPO-MALACAÑANG

TONGUE-TIED, President Arroyo gropes for the right word to say.

Too many tongues . . .

From page A1

That was when she stumbled and stopped in the middle of her speech, trying to grope for the right word.

All because she had been talking in too many tongues, she said.

Meeting with the Filipino community at the Madrid Auditorium of Conde Duque on Friday, Ms Arroyo, in a peach blouse and slacks, told them in Filipino about the prospects of more jobs in Spain.

Suddenly, she stopped and turned to the Cabinet men and congressmen seated behind her to ask about a word on health-related jobs.

Quick to her rescue, outgoing Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas spat out the words "health care."

Ms Arroyo broke into a laugh, held her head with both hands and said: "*Nalimutan ko na sa daming lenguahe* (I forgot because of the many languages)."

Praised by hosts

Ms Arroyo had been praised by the Spaniards and fellow Filipinos here for the way she addressed the Spanish Congress, City Hall officials and businessmen in fluent Spanish on Thursday.

During her talk before the Filipino community, the President gave out awards to both Spaniards and Filipinos promoting Philippine culture and interests.

She said that at her meeting with Spanish President Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero at the Palacio de la Moncloa, she had asked that Filipinos be allowed to have their driver's licenses in the Philippines recognized here.

King and queen

Also on Friday, Ms Arroyo received a call from former President Jose Maria Aznar at the Ritz Hotel where she was billeted, viewed a Filipino exhibit at the Centro Cultural de Conde Duque, and had lunch with King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sofia at the Palacio Real de Madrid.

Later in the day, she was to attend the commemoration of Fil-Hispano Friendship Day at the Ritz Hotel.

Fighting terror

She was to leave Spain for Manila at 11:30 on Saturday and is to arrive in Manila Sunday morning.

Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz said that during the Spanish visit, the Philippines and Spain signed an agreement on counterterrorism activities and exchange of training and military knowledge between their military and police officials. *(Story on Page A2)*

Both countries have been victims of terror attacks. Extremists in 2004 bombed train stations in Madrid, killing nearly 200 people and wounding about 1,400.

Cruz said the agreement would also cover an exchange of information on disaster control.

A visit to Camp Crame . . .

From page A1

Police has been sprucing up its headquarters in Quezon City. The plan is to build a park in front of the national headquarters (NHQ) building and improve the sidewalk around the area.

Heroes love

Work began last year, when officials broke ground at the lightly forested area in front of NHQ, the site of the PNP Heritage Park.

The old battle monument, which was in front of the multipurpose center, was moved to the Heritage Park.

In lieu of the monument, a heroes lane was constructed in front of the multipurpose center, which would have two miniature bridges and a fountain. Last week, workers finished building the bridges and paving the area.

When completed, the Heritage Park will showcase a battle monument on which the names of fallen soldiers will be inscribed. The monument will also recognize the accomplishments of the police force and milestones in its history beginning in 1901.

Cost

According to official and unofficial sources, Heritage Park would cost P16 million, while the sidewalk would cost P1.3 million.

The money came from savings and trust receipts, sources added.

Trust receipts are revenues earned by the police through licenses and clearances.

Visitors to the park interviewed by the INQUIRER said they were only too glad to walk on the new pavement and to rest on the benches under the trees.

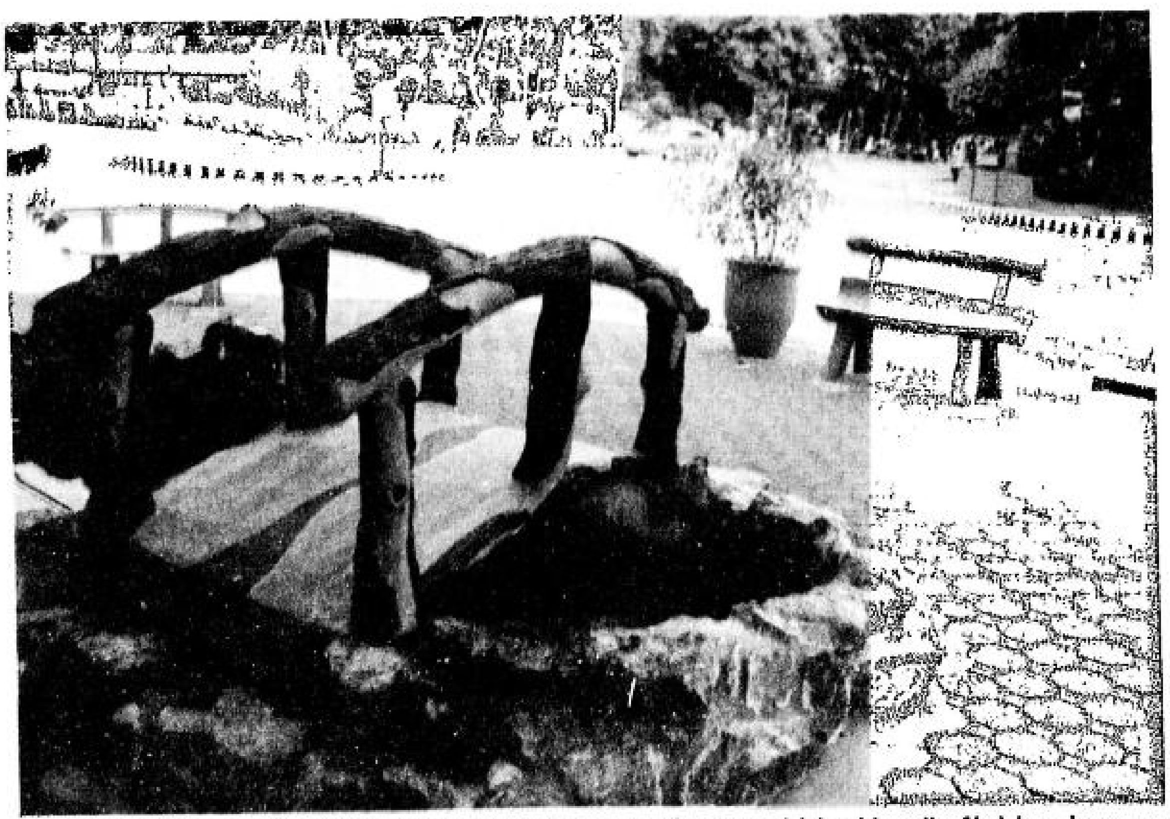
There were other opinions about the park.

It's a camp

Some junior officers, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Camp Crame was not meant to be a park, where civilians could sit around and relax.

The money spent on the park could have been put to better use by strengthening the police force in the countryside, the junior officers said.

"Go to a fourth-class municipality and you will find policemen still using typewriters. *Sila talaga ang kawawa* (They are the ones who are worse off)," one officer said.



POCKET PARK across the PNP multipurpose hall is neat and serene with its sidewalk of brick-red pavers, wooden benches and a whimsical bridge, all part of the overall beautification of the police headquarters at Camp Crame.

RAFFY LERMA

More police stations

A ranking official, who also requested anonymity, agreed that resources should go to the countryside where they were most needed.

But the PNP, under retiring Director General Arturo Lomibao, was already doing this, the official said.

He noted that civilians and visitors also visited the camp. "The intention really is to make visitors comfortable."

Lomibao, who is scheduled to retire on July 5, assuming President Macapagal-Arroyo does not extend the PNP chief's term, had made it his priority to build or rehabilitate police stations in the provinces, since many of the buildings were dilapidated or squatting on private property.

Transformation program

These physical developments are part of the PNP Transformation Program, an ambitious plan to create a highly professional police force at the end of five or six years.

During Lomibao's term, police stations mushroomed nationwide—in popular tourist spots, as well as in communist hotbeds

To date, 54 new stations have been built, 51 are undergoing construction and 48 are completing the administrative or bidding process, according to the Public Information Office.

The cost of the projects, roughly P338 million for some 150 new stations, was shared by the police and local governments.

More in countryside

"We're doing more for the countryside than for the camp. Very little of the resources had been [set aside] for the camp," the ranking officer said.

Another official revealed that because money was scarce, the construction work at the camp was done in phases.

The ranking officer said the new police stations would be the legacy of Lomibao's administration, whose overriding motivation has been to "bring back the dignity of the PNP."

Repair of toilets

The Headquarters Support Service, which maintains Camp Crame, said it also recommended the construction of a covered pathway and a Camp Maintenance and Services Unit office, which would cost P8 million and P12.3 million, respectively, and the repair of toilets, which would cost P4.9 million.

These long-term projects, however, have yet to be approved, the HSS said.

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'Why single out Borra,' charge all Comelec execs

From page A1

others should be treated separately."

The Ombudsman announced Friday it had adopted a resolution containing factual findings that the House could use to initiate impeachment proceedings against Borra.

It said Abalos and the other officials were still under investigation.

Pimentel also suggested that the Ombudsman file criminal charges against Borra directly with the Sandiganbayan without going through the impeachment process.

"I don't think we should go the route of impeachment. I believe that, using US jurisprudence, commissioners can be criminally charged directly by the Ombudsman before the Sandiganbayan," he said, arguing that the commissioners were not in the league of impeachable officials like the President and the Chief Justice.

Sen. Rodolfo Biazon agreed with Pimentel's view: "Impeachment does not carry judicial punishment. The next thing to do is file criminal charges, if indeed the charges are true."

Pimentel added that if Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez wanted to "use a little conservative approach," she should file criminal charges with the Sandiganbayan against retired Comelec officials found liable for the deal.

The Supreme Court voided the deal two-and-a-half years ago on grounds that the Comelec disregarded the law and its bidding procedures when it awarded the contract for the automatic counting machines to Mega Pacific e-Solutions Inc.

Apart from Abalos and Borra, retired Commissioners Luzviminda Tancangco, Rufino Javier, Ralph Lantion and Mehol Sadain, and current Commissioner Florentino Tuason Jr. approved the contract on April 15, 2003.

Turn state witnesses

Pimentel also said members of the Comelec Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), whom the Ombudsman had ordered dismissed for grave misconduct and conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the service, should turn state witnesses.

"My suggestion to them is to save their own skin and turn state witnesses," he said, adding that it was unfair to let them take the brunt of the law for the deal.

The BAC was chaired by Eduardo Mejos. Its members included lawyers Jose Balbuena Jr., Lamberto Llamas, Bartolome Sinocruz and Gideon de Guzman.

The Ombudsman had said Borra was being cited for allowing the BAC to declare the Mega Pacific consortium eligible to take part in the bidding process; allowing material deviation from the bidding requirements; and recommending to the BAC that the award be given to the consortium despite its ineligibility and technical failure.

Comelec spokesperson James Arthur Jimenez said Borra would withhold comment pending receipt of a copy of the Ombudsman's report.

Borra is busy this weekend for the wedding of a son somewhere in Laguna.

Culpability

Augusto Lagman, the main complainant in the Mega Pacific deal, also wants Abalos included by the Ombudsman among those it found liable for the deal.

"Abalos and all the other commissioners who signed the deal are culpable. And Abalos has been defending and defending the legality of the contract in so many forums," said Lagman, president of the Information Technology Foundation of the Philippines and Systems Group head of the poll watchdog National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections.

Like Pimentel and Biazon, Lagman said the retired commissioners could still be charged with graft.

Lagman also questioned why the members of the BAC were only ordered dismissed by the Ombudsman.

Lagman pointed out that the high court had given the Ombudsman "a very long time to conclude its investigation."

"Questions have to be raised by the public as to why the Ombudsman was able to come out only with a partial result," he said.

But House Majority Leader Prospero Nograles said the Office of the Ombudsman was operating under pressure.

"I think the Ombudsman was pressured to put out even initial findings just to conform to the Supreme Court [deadline] of June 30," he said.

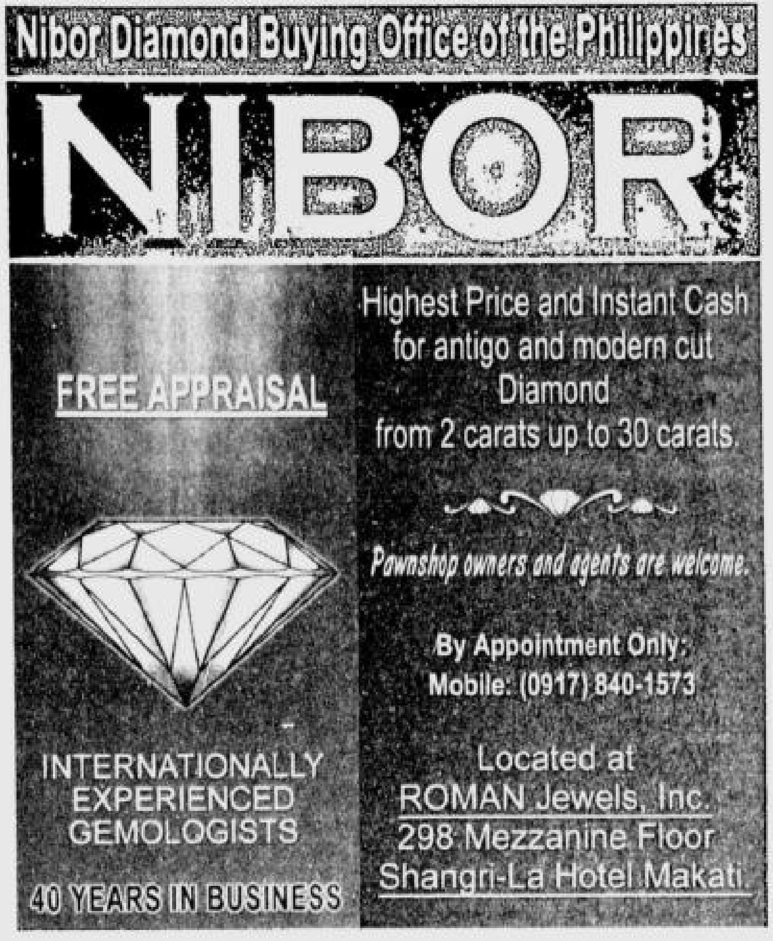
Nograles said it was too early to tell if the Mega Pacific deal was indeed a collegial decision by the Comelec.

"I have not read the findings," he said.

Nograles, who also chairs the House committee on rules, said that according to procedure, the chamber would wait for a complainant and at least one congressman who would endorse the complaint.

But Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez warned that the 2007 polls could be affected if impeachment proceedings were initiated against Borra and possibly other Comelec officials.

He warned that the public might not look kindly on a poll body whose attention would be divided between preparations for the 2007 elections and the impeachment of its top officials. *With a report from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.*



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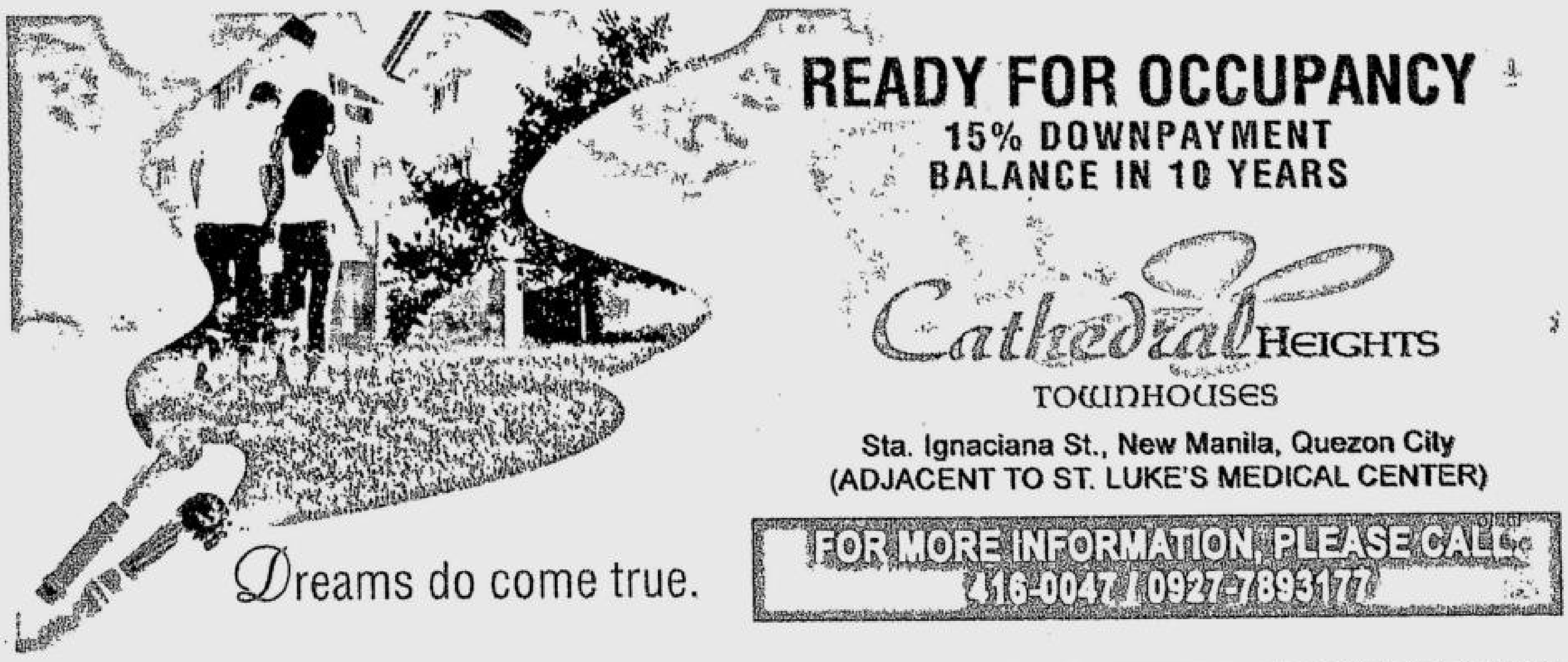

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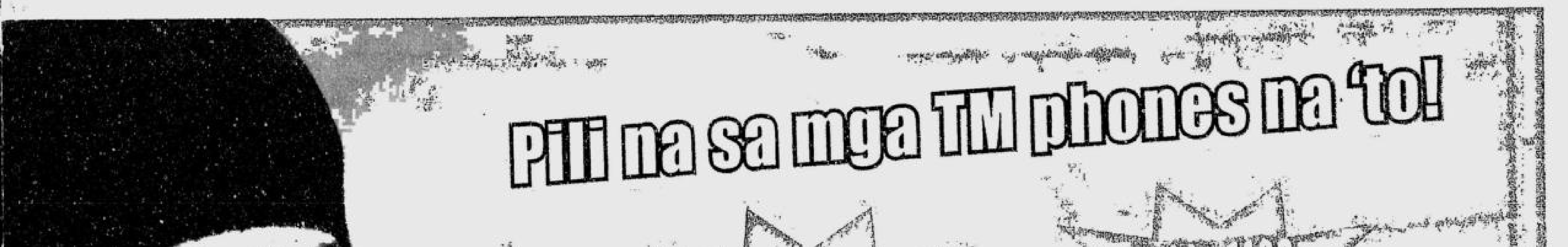

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OPINION

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Who's winning?

EDITORIAL

BY THE ARMED FORCES' OWN COUNT, IN THE first six months of the year, more soldiers died in encounters with the New People's Army than did communist insurgents. Between Jan. 1 and June 27, a total of 104 soldiers perished in clashes with the NPA or in ambushes by the rebel group. The best estimate of the rebel death toll in the same period, however, is 87.

In these absolute terms, the communist insurgency seems to be going the insurgents' way. Is it?

The AFP chief of staff, Gen. Generoso Senga, has a ready answer. "It does not mean that we are losing the battle," Senga told reporters on Thursday. "In fact, based on our order of battle the insurgency movement has not made any gains."

In relative terms, of course, he is indubitably right. The AFP's six-month death toll is 104 lives too many, but it is still less than a thousandth of the military's current troop levels. That of the NPA, however, is more or less about a hundredth of its current strength. In other words, the insurgency is losing men at 10 times the rate of the AFP, hardly a sustainable strategy.

In definitional terms, Senga is also right. The number of insurgency casualties can only be, necessarily, an incomplete estimate. "Let me make it clear that these are based on [actual] body count. In the battlefield, we cannot recover all the rebel casualties all the time." (And naturally, the NPA does not publish casualty figures.)

So the grim numbers tell us that the AFP is not losing the war. Does this necessarily mean, however, that the AFP is winning it?

Consider the following: The communist insurgency, at 37 years and counting, is one of the longest-running in the world. From its heyday in the early 1980s, when economic distress and political repression under the Marcos dictatorship helped swell its ranks, the insurgency, in terms of number of armed rebels, at one point shrank to about three-fourths its biggest size. But today, NPA rebels continue to wage guerrilla raids on police outposts, burn cellular phone relay stations, attack military formations at will. Controversially, they continue to use land mines, which they claim are remote-controlled and therefore not disallowed by international convention, in executing disruptive ambushes with impunity.

If this is the AFP's definition of victory, we wonder how the military defines defeat.

We welcome Senga's remarks, because they can help start a debate on a viable definition of victory. What does it mean to win the war on the insurgency? History tells us winning cannot depend on military factors alone. Yes, the AFP needs to buy arms and ammunition and the latest (or, at least, non-obsolete) military equipment; surely we cannot send our soldiers to battle unarmed and unprepared.

But just as surely, we cannot send our soldiers to battle an endless insurgency. We have always thought that the counter-insurgency role of the Armed Forces was twofold: to protect the Republic, and to force the insurgents off the battlefield and onto the negotiating table. History tells us an all-out war on a guerrilla movement cannot be won. This is not defeatism, but the deepest realism. It requires a strong, disciplined military; how else can rebels be forced off the battlefield? But a realistic strategy also requires draining the water in which the fishes swim; that is, convincing the population in a communist area of influence of the alternatives, and providing public services even in the remotest barrio. Guerrilla warfare, after all, is about control of population, not control of territory.

"We will intensify our intelligence efforts," Senga said last week. "That's basic guerrilla tactics." Yes. Of course it is. But pinpointing the enemy's location is not enough. To use another word from another war, they are themselves embedded. The pure military solution cannot pry them loose; instead, their base of support must erode from within.

It is for this reason that we think the all-out war that President Macapagal-Arroyo declared on June 16 cannot succeed; it relies too much on a military solution.

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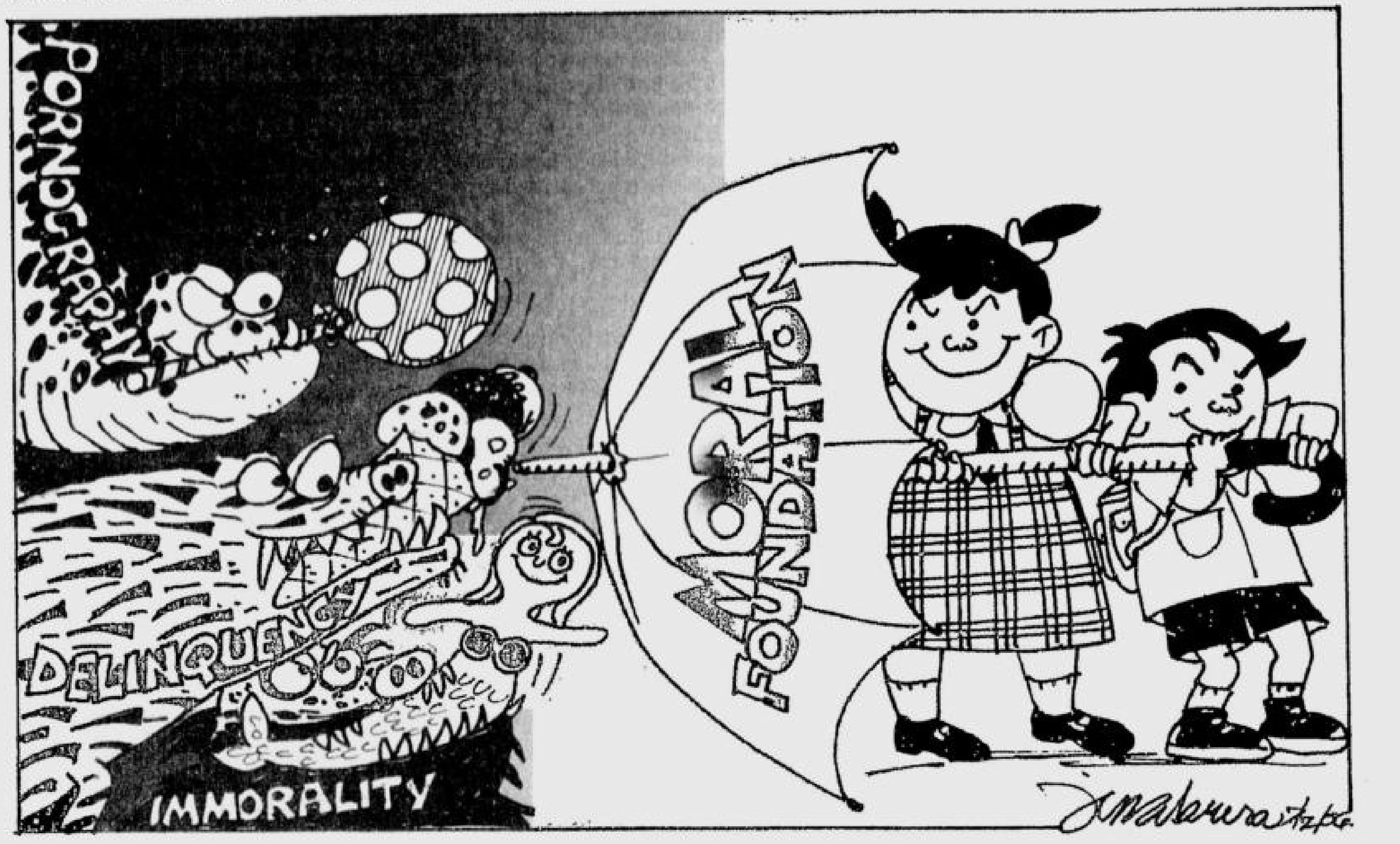

A fairyland Metro Manila

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

FOR DECADES METRO MANILA WAS CLUTTERED with smoke-belching vehicles that the authorities simply ignored and tolerated. The air pollution they created uglified the metropolis, especially the commercial centers in Makati and surrounding regions. Buildings and walls were blackened with soot, not to mention the senseless graffiti painted by morons better confined in insane asylums and the seasonal election posters prohibited by law but unlawfully allowed by the Commission on Elections. Metro Manila as the showpiece capital of the Philippines ranked ironically enough as one of the dirtiest cities in the world.

Some years ago, the government finally albeit belatedly ordered emission tests for all motor vehicles before their annual registration by the Land Transportation Office. Soon enough the air in the crowded centers of population, especially Metro Manila, became comfortably breathable. The many offensive smoke-belchers before are now prominently absent except for a few persistent violators that are immediately apprehended by now vigilant traffic enforcers. I suppose, or hope, that the graffiti will follow soon, and the posters will also be eliminated if we are able to eliminate the Comelec itself.

Now that we have taken the first step in reducing the air pollution in Metro Manila, I suggest that we may now address our efforts to the clean-up of the structures it has blemished through the many permissive years of neglect and inattention.

During the '60s, I personally witnessed how many buildings in Europe were cleansed of centuries of grime by high-pressure water-hosing that made many communities gleaming neat again. There was a tourist attraction in the Netherlands—or was it in Belgium?—of a big church that was always half clean and half dirty because while the dirty half was being hosed, the cleaned half was getting dirty again.

But on the whole, the determined and widely-supported clean-up campaign gave the old continent a new look.

Because of our chronic lack of water although we are living in an archipelago, we probably will not be able to employ the water-hose method that proved so effective in Europe. So perhaps the best alternative to clean up our own soot is to paint over it. I have seen portions of the problem erased in this manner, which we may expand to cover the rest of the dingy places in our metropolis. We may yet attain the dream of a really clean city like the recently sanitized formerly filthy Calcutta in India.

Assuming that this remedy will be effective all over, the next problem will be the wherewithal to effect this expensive project. I know we will not have enough public funds for the purpose because the bulk of the money collected from the taxpayers by the government will be squandered by the legislators and the Cabinet members for their supposedly official junkets abroad. So we will have to look for other sources for the millions of pesos the massive work will entail.

The sources I have in mind are the people who have more than enough pesos and dollars and can afford to assist the nation from which they have amassed their considerable fortunes. I refer to the taipans. They are the captains of industry in this country who can manifest their gratitude to it by sharing their enormous wealth with our people in this mammoth and necessary undertaking. The tremendous affluence of these economic titans will hardly be diminished by the relatively small contributions they will make to the clean-up and even beautification of this land that has treated them so generously.

Some of them will probably protest that they are already doing more than enough for the country's welfare by paying millions of pesos in taxes, besides providing well-paid jobs to numberless Filipinos who otherwise would be further swelling the ranks of our unemployed. True enough; for there is no denying or belittling their magnificent role in promoting the prosperity, or at least the financial security, of the masses and enhancing our economic future. All these are a given for which the whole nation is truly thankful.

But it would be like adding icing to the cake, as it were, and at not really much cost to them, if they would expand their civic spirit a little bit more by agreeing to finance the project I am here humbly proposing.

Just imagine if instead of its present squalid appearance, Metro Manila were to surprisingly become spanking clean and attractive, for all of us to behold and tourists to admire. Imagine further if instead of painting it the usual drab gray and the unexciting beige of the conservative past, the present unappealing infrastructures were to be dressed up in cheerful crayon colors—carnation red and royal blue and lemon yellow—to make the dirty bridges, the dark tunnels, the moldy cloverleafs, and all the unclean eyesores of the city sparkling now like a veritable Disneyland. Wouldn't we, and especially the children and all the young at heart whatever their age, like to live in a fairyland like that?

Well, I have to admit, this old man must be dreaming. But impossible dreams can come true, as Sir James Barrie would remind us, like roses in December.

Arise!

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY IS TOLD ABOUT A FILIPINO priest who went to Europe for the first time. When he was about to start the Mass, he realized that he was so short and the altar was so high, such that only his face was visible to the congregation. How did he remedy the situation? With a loud voice he made the sign of the cross—his right hand touching his forehead first, then his chin, then his left cheek, and finally, his right cheek.

* * *

In today's Gospel (Mk. 5, 21-43), we hear of little people with such big faith. Jairus, who believes that her daughter will be healed. The woman with hemorrhages, who believes that even if she just touches Jesus' clothes, she too will be healed. Jesus tells us today: "Do not be afraid; just have faith." The true Christian is one who has no fears, but one whose faith is bigger than his/her fears.

* * *

Does it have to be so, that we turn to God in faith only when we are desperate, hopeless, and in need? Do we remember God only when the storms of life overwhelm us? How about when the sun is shining and we are enjoying our blessings? Happy or sad, in good times and in bad, may we hold on and acknowledge, in humility and gratitude, our need for God.

* * *

Three times the word "crowd" comes out in today's Gospel. In many instances, Jesus performed His miracles before a crowd. But in many other instances, His miracles were done in very private and personal settings. Jesus wants a personal commitment from each one of us, a faith that not only goes with the flow of the crowd, but a faith so strong that it can sometimes go against the crowd. Is your faith just for the crowd, for public display and public consumption? Do you use your so-called "faith" to push your selfish agenda, for personal glorification? It's amazing how some people can invoke God's name and use religion for their worldly ambitions.

* * *

"Why this commotion and weeping?" Jesus asks each one of us today to trust Him rather than go on being troubled and miserable. Today, look into your heart. What is it that bothers and burdens you? Surrender them all unto the Lord, "Jesus, I trust in you!"

* * *

What is it that bothers and burdens us in our country today? More rightly, who are they that bother us and burden us as a people? Our sincere prayer is that the Lord free us from our burdens, and take away those that burden us.

* * *

Jesus singled out and searched for the woman who touched her clothes in a big, unruly crowd. He stopped, took time to reach out and heal her. How consoling to know that each one of us counts before God. How assuring indeed that you and I are not just a number, a client, an agenda or a project.

* * *

The woman who was healed without Jesus' prior knowledge or permission ("Who touched me?"), realizing what happened to her, approached Jesus trembling in fear and fell down before Jesus. Actually she "stole" healing from Jesus, but the good thing is that she acknowledged her fault, and "told him the whole truth." Jesus' response to her was: "Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace, and be cured of your affliction." There can be no real healing without the truth. In the end, it is the truth, not the manipulation or the hiding of it, that will give a person his/her true freedom and peace.

* * *

"Little girl, I say to you arise!" I take this as an invitation for all of us to rise above whatever burdens we have in our hearts and in our lives. Let us not allow ourselves to be imprisoned by complacency and laziness. Let us all arise, and do whatever mission is ahead of us.

* * *

It's July once again, and Christmas is but six months away. What will Christmas be for us this year? Will we have solved our problems as a nation by then? Will we have torn down the walls that divide us, and will we have healed the wounds that pain us? The answer to these questions depends on our deep faith in God, and in our relentless pursuit of the truth. Rest assured, God does not sleep. Goodness and truthfulness will triumph soon.

* * *

"She suffered greatly at the hands of many doctors and had spent all she had." This is a timely note and reminder for all doctors whose mission is to help and to heal other people. Can you, perhaps, lower your professional fees, or sometimes render service for free? Whatever you did to your brothers and sisters, you did it for the Lord. Amen? Amen!

* * *

"Be strong and of good courage, fear not, neither be afraid ... for the Lord thy God, He it is that doth go with thee; He will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." (Deuteronomy)

Let God be your pillar in these troubled times, text ON<space>PRAYER and send to 2018 for Globe/Sun and receive daily prayers. God bless you. Mama Mary loves you!

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to rise up and rise above my burdens and to reach out to you in faith. Amen.

The men who play god

HIGH BLOOD

Eduardo V. Nievera, M.D.

WE'D also like to know the concerns of the sixtysomething and above, what makes their blood pressure rise or makes them sit back, content that all's well with their world and with themselves. —Ed.

SERENDIPITY IT WAS WHEN I CHANCED UPON a book and an article on a school magazine while organizing things in my study room. Authored by the late Dr. Arturo Rotor, "The Men Who Play God" is a collection of 10 short stories about physicians. The article "Tao Pa Rin" is about the annual, traditional concerts held by young doctors of the state university. Inspired by mentors who never tired of telling us that medicine is both science and art, the concerts showcase in song, dance and skits, the other side of physicians—their laughter, frustrations, fears and triumphs. Not much is really known and appreciated by the laity about the life of the men and women behind the white coat.

For starters, the modern doctor has to undergo four years of pre-medicine for a Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts course, five years of medicine proper and internship, four to seven years of residency (depending on the specialty), one year of fellowship—all of 13 to 16 years of study and several certifying examinations, before he or she can qualify as a "specialist." Add at least two hardship years for establishing practice before he starts earning a decent living. After making rounds in hospital wards or holding clinic, or after answering calls in far-flung barrios or a lecture in the academe, the doctor reverts to an ordinary homo sapiens like the rest of us inhabitants in this small, blue planet.

Behind that clinical façade—the stethoscope slung around the neck even as he bears in mind to not get personally involved lest decisions in treatment are clouded—he feels deep empathy and compassion for patients, particularly terminal cases and the indigent. Doctors, too, get sick. And it is a truism that doctors are the most difficult to manage since they are very aware of the complications and prognosis of illnesses. And this also is true—somehow, something is bound to go awry when it is a doctor who is undergoing a medical test, treatment or surgery. In his book, Rotor quotes a true-to-life short novel to describe a doctor-friend: "They recalled their adventures and misadventures ... the paradox of it all, he murmured to himself, afraid of being heard by the small crowd. Of course, he was thinking about the life of physicians who, in their lifetime, came across cases which they encountered and discussed with colleagues—illnesses which they themselves would fall prey to, someday."

Ah, but doctors too, have their moments of humor, if only to relieve tension and fatigue. If one could only hear the jokes that go around during surgery and conferences, or that are interspersed in formal lectures by seasoned professors, my favorite comedian Gary Lising would drool with envy.

At the start of the X-ray examination of an understandably anxious patient who was given Valium (an oral tranquilizer) prior to being brought down to radiology, the technician gave her the routine explanation about "barium enema" (a rectal injection which makes possible X-ray visualization of the large intestine). Unfortunately, the patient somehow heard something else and started to alight from the X-ray table, blurting out: "What? You are going to give me Valium again? And this time from behind!"

Another doctor (who in good nature related this true incident over a cup of coffee) had the misfortune of getting stuffed inside his "carnapped" sports car, stripped of his pants, and finally released in a secluded roadside in a province south of Manila. It was nighttime. But he retraced his steps in the bush, groping frantically in the dark for his favorite toupee which fell off somewhere.

And there is this successful MD who, up to this time, cannot forget this faux pas he made when he was still an intern: "a 3-year-old male, single, with four brothers, all boys," he scribbled on the patient's profile.

Doctors gravitate toward the arts. Some are painters and hold exhibits during hospital or medical school anniversaries and conventions. Others are published writers, camera bugs (a few are members of the Camera Club), antique collectors, gun enthusiasts, hobbyists, sportsmen, musicians—and frustrated singers/dancers. One, a member of a bikers' group, would regularly pedal to Tagaytay, but with his chauffeur following him in his Mercedes-Benz. Another had a collection of Nazi memorabilia, and still another is the curator of a special museum. During Christmas programs in hospitals, you should watch senior citizen consultants dress to the nines, gamely going through the doggedly practiced steps of modern dances; or listen to that serious-looking doctor belting out the ballads of Frank Sinatra or mimicking the Beatles like everybody does in karaoke bars.

Physicians also go through the agony of deciding whether a son or daughter should take up medicine, too. A good number are inclined to discourage their children, knowing the long years of study, the sleepless nights reading tons of books, the interminable examinations, the expense that the course entails and the meager income during the early years of practice (especially for those already married and with children).

Once, while sitting around in the doctors' lounge, a group of us heard someone playing soothing and entrancing *kundimans* and *haranas* on the piano. The pianist, a colleague, said he learned to play by ear. Jokingly, he asked if we wanted to join the "Lonely Hearts Club." We answered we are just one of the many who appreciated good music but do not know the difference between a bar and a half-note. As he continued to play his beautiful pieces, we hummed along.

The doctors are *tao rin pala.*

Eduardo V. Nievera, M.D, 72, is with the Radiology Department of the Makati Medical Center.

A global, super-sized Superman

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

IT'S SUPERMAN IN AN AGE OF GLOBALIZATION. Finally, he's realized that it's not only Americans who're worth saving. There's a scene in the movie where TV newscasts are overheard reporting Superman sightings around the world, including one in Manila—which sends the local audience buzzing.

(Speculating about this mention of Manila, I told my kids the producers probably used this sound bite to appeal to every major market worldwide, replacing "Manila" with other cities where the movie's showing.)

But in fairness, Superman has become a global icon, one of the few immediately recognizable comic characters, breaching borders of geography, culture, religion and politics. Other nations may reject the concept of America as the world's policeman, but who doesn't want Superman on their side?

Five years after leaving Earth to search for possible remnants of his home planet Krypton, Superman returns and seeks to pick up where he left off. But while he has no trouble resurrecting his persona as the world's savior, restoring his private life requires some doing. Lois Lane, the love of his life, is now a mother and is "committed" to an editor on their paper, The Daily Planet. His earthly home, where he was schooled on the universe's wealth of knowledge, has been plundered for Lord knows what nefarious ends. In the movie, it seems even the journalistic career of Superman's alter ego, Clark Kent, is in dire trouble as he's shown doing nothing but answering to editor Perry White's summonses, like a puppy eager for scraps.

It's this tension between his public role and his private miseries that lends "Superman Returns" an emotional gravity and gives it more depth than one would have expected from a movie about a superhero. Kal-El, aka Superman, is a hero for the world. And yet he is not of this world. When he flies off to space and hovers above the Earth, he hears a thousand voices echoing the never-ending conflict and violence that bedevil his adopted planet. And yet to help most effectively when his help is most needed, he must be able to screen out ambient noises, in a way favoring a few above everyone else. Who wouldn't develop a neurosis?

* * *

DIRECTOR Bryan Singer honors both the spirit and the story of the first two "Superman" movies directed by Richard Donner, which resurrected the franchise before it descended into camp in subsequent movies.

In fact, if it is at all possible, Singer manages to improve on the earlier movies, aided in no small way by far more sophisticated special effects and truly earthshaking sound, courtesy of THX systems.

Where this new movie falters is in its lead. True, when you're wearing the Superman costume and are shown flying through the stratosphere, acting becomes a superfluity. But Brandon Routh is even more wooden than called for, registering hardly any change in expression even when straining against the effort of hurling an island into outer space, or finding out that Lois has a child. Only now do I realize how gifted an actor Christopher Reeve was, for his Superman, while properly iconic, was also "human," conveying human emotions like dismay and desire, embarrassment and agony. Maybe Routh will grow into the role. For starters, he should consider mussing his hair a bit and get rid of that distracting curl on his forehead—what girls of our generation used to call a "kiss me."

Superman is served well by the rest of the supporting cast, particularly by Kevin Spacey as Lex Luthor, who brings to his stereotypical villain a kind of boyish petulance and cold-hearted indifference. But I'm sorry to say that Kate Bosworth proves too flimsy for the role of Lois Lane. Maybe I'm still reeling from memories of Margot Kidder as the spunky, witty, cynical and yet emotionally needy reporter who falls hard for Superman. It's hard to believe Bosworth could ever summon the street smarts to be a hard-boiled, Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter. Especially when the script shows her doing such tremendously stupid things like unbuckling her seat belt just when her plane hits turbulence, or taking her young son with her as she investigates the villain's lair.

* * *

THE MOVIE'S excitement quotient ratchets up several degrees with a screening on the San Miguel-Coca-Cola Imax Theater, that not only blows up the movie several stories high, but also gives the audience a 3-D viewing experience for 20 minutes of the movie's running time.

The audience at the special screening (which started past midnight and ended at 3 a.m.!) at the Mall of Asia cheered and hooted as Superman zoomed through the air, so close one could imagine feeling his cape swoosh past one's head. While the movie in its "normal" form is exciting enough, watching Superman's heroic feats in 3-D transforms the experience into an absolute thrill.

From what I've heard, so loud is the buzz that the Imax Theater has already sold out all screenings of the first week's showing. This, despite the pricey tickets at P350 each. At that screening, which was on a school night, to which some 100 tickets had been sold to the public, we encountered a couple and their four children who had bought their tickets a week before. "This was the only time slot still available," they explained, even as their children were beginning to nod off as we waited for the theater doors to open. When I asked if the kids could still wake up early enough for school the next day, their mother replied that they were all on the afternoon shift.

I thought it extraordinary that an average Filipino family would choose to invest a sizeable sum for the chance to view Superman in super dimensions. Then again, such parental investments are what childhood memories are made of.

Reflections on the death penalty abolition

COMMENTARY

Manuel R. Pamaran

WITHOUT MUCH DEBATE AND PUBLIC HEARing, Congress passed the bill abolishing the death penalty and the President signed it into law. In these times when heinous crimes imperil the daily lives of peaceful citizens, and unabated graft and corruption hinders the country's economic growth, the justifications for the abolition are flimsy.

Among the main reasons given for the abolition of the death penalty are: (1) it is not an effective deterrent to crimes; (2) human life is God-given, therefore, it must be respected and only God has the right to take it; (3) a death sentence that has been executed can no longer be remedied; and (4) it deprives a convict the opportunity to reform.

On the first reason, let it be stressed that the death penalty was re-imposed by Republic Act 7659 only on Jan. 1, 1994. Since then, not more than 10 convicts have been executed despite the fact that there are more than a thousand death convicts. Besides, most of the death sentences have been commuted to life imprisonment, if not indefinitely suspended. In short, there had been no real implementation of the death penalty law; therefore, there is not enough basis to say whether or not the death penalty is an effective deterrent to crimes.

To be an effective deterrent, the "threat" of death penalty should be complemented with the efficient and speedy administration of justice in the arrest, investigation and trial of the accused. Without this complement, death penalty would be a lonely scarecrow. Worse, in the absence of both—death penalty and efficient, speedy justice—our country will not be a wholesome place to live in.

On the second issue, the purpose of the death penalty is to uphold the sanctity of life. The taking of human life is justified by necessity under certain circumstances. One such situation is "self-defense." Another is the defense of the person or right of one's wife, ascendants, brothers and sisters, or relatives by affinity in the same degree, and those by consanguinity within the fourth civil degree; and of the person or right of a stranger under circumstances analogous to self-defense. (Art. 11, Par. 1, Revised Penal Code)

Under the law, the author thereof is freed from any and all liability, it being understood that had he not done the act, he or the person he defended would have been killed.

If under such circumstances—where at stake is only the life of the person defending or being defended—killing is justified, the more reason that the State is justified to take human life in defense of thousands of other lives and of the community itself. This, undoubtedly, gives greater meaning to the sacredness of human life.

Viewed from another angle, the abolition of the death penalty seriously sets back our fight against graft and corruption, especially against plunder which is punishable by death. It puts in serious doubt our thrusts toward and avowals for a clean and honest government.

As to the third issue, it is unlikely that someone innocent could be a "victim of execution." The victim of a crime or his heir—knowing that accusing an innocent person will set free the real wrongdoer and, therefore, he will not get justice—will in all likelihood see to it that he accuses only the person who has wronged him. This is human nature and is not debatable.

Moreover, our judicial system practically reduces to zero any error of judgment: A criminal complaint is first filed with the police officer who conducts an investigation to determine if there is a reasonable ground to charge the suspect. If such ground is found to exist, the case is forwarded to the prosecutor who in turn conducts a preliminary investigation to determine if there is probable cause showing a crime has been committed and the suspect is probably guilty thereof. In the event of a positive finding, the case is filed with a regional trial court. If the accused is convicted and sentenced to death, his case is reviewed by the Court of Appeals and if affirmed, it goes up to the Supreme Court for automatic review. The votes of at least eight of the 15 justices are needed to affirm a death sentence. All these proceedings are done in succession and are adversarial in nature: the accused, assisted by counsel, is given his day in court to confront the witness(es) against him and to present witness(es) in his behalf. If there is even just an iota of doubt about his guilt, he is absolved or acquitted of the crime.

In the event that the death sentence is affirmed by the Supreme Court and becomes final, the accused has still a chance to have his case reviewed, this time by the President who decides whether or not the accused deserves to be granted executive clemency.

Lastly, the claim that the death penalty offers the criminal no room for reform is not accurate. On the contrary, it is the best way to reform criminals. In a limited sense, it may be said that the executed criminal will never have a chance to reform; but from a wider perspective, we can say that reformation occurs when criminals avoid suffering the same fate by not persisting in their evil ways. If they do, they have only themselves to blame if they end up with the death penalty.

Montaigne, a French essayist, once said: "We do not aim to correct the man we hang; we correct and warn others by him." Voltaire, another French poet, said it another way: "Life resembles the banquet of Damocles; the sword is ever suspended."

Manuel R. Pamaran is a retired Sandiganbayan justice.

Dancing rainbows

REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE

Patricia Evangelista

TACLOBAN CITY, LEYTE—THE TAXI DRIVER WAS A DIE-hard Backstreet Boys fan, playing song after song for the entire hour it took to get from UP to the airport. By the time I stepped up for the body search in the initial check-in, half-dazed and mumbling the lyrics to "Get Down," I was confronted by the sight of the Steel Butterfly herself, Madam Imelda Marcos in the flesh, towering over me in a lime-green pantsuit. I didn't know whether to bow, kneel, ask to kiss her hand, or run away for fear of being accused of contaminating her air with my plebeian tastes. Even in her 70s, it's not difficult to wonder why foreign journalists once called her "that exquisite woman."

I flew to Tacloban (home of The Lady herself and site of Douglas MacArthur's historic landing) for the festival season: my first assignment for Living Asia. Shown on cable around the world, the channel showcases the beautiful and the strange from this side of civilization. My job description is writer/host. The first question they asked on my job interview was whether I was willing to attempt anything—meaning eat anything, go anywhere, try anything and jump off a cliff if necessary. Yegads, I said yes.

The Kasadyaan Festival of Festivals brings together various fiestas from all over Leyte in one grand celebration. Together with the Pintados of Tacloban Festival—honoring the ancient art of body painting that had the Spanish calling Leyte people "the painted ones"—the two fiestas combined make June 29 a day for "*kasadyaan*" (meaning, festive joy). This year, a street dancing parade featured competing dances from the different towns, the championship a much sought-after honor.

Frankly, I've never been to any sort of festival, unless I count the Flores de Mayo where I participated when I was 6. I was a chubby little girl in a white dress—or more accurately, a white dress with a chubby little girl inside. I remember trudging along the streets of my village, stealing looks at the little boy marching beside me, the unsmiling young gentleman who had gingerly held my hand only at the insistence of our respective mothers—and, in the process, taken hold of my pitty-pattying little heart. Ah, young love.

So I stand along the long stretch of Tacloban's main road, hemmed in by a group of high school kids with painted faces and mothers whose children seem to believe that the best vantage point could be found only after wiggling through my legs. We wait for what seemed like hours—in reality, it must have been only one.

Parched, I shoulder my way through the crowd into McDonald's. At the counter, the smiling cashier has the store logo painted on one cheek, a red and yellow starburst on the other. A printed poster beside the register advertises the "Pintados Treat"—Get one henna tattoo free, with a P100 purchase. Outside, every building has people peering out of second and third floor windows. A baby in a pink sweater and a blue bonnet yawns from the back of a motorcycle, held up by a proud mama.. I stand waiting with the rest of the crew, scribbling notes and watching as two boys, wearing red and black Halloween monster masks, zoom past on motorcycles to howl at the camera. The air is electric. From above, it is a sea of umbrellas and eager faces.

And then the drums boom. The first group of dancers explodes into the day—slim young boys, bodies covered with white paint and streaked in blue, leaping, whirling and throwing themselves into the air. They come at a rush, group after group, beat after throbbing beat, paint mixing with sweat on gleaming brown skin.

It's like being inside a speeding carousel, watching colors blur and fade and flash—reds and purples and shrieking, screaming yellows, all burnished under the punishing heat of a sun more April than June. A band of teenage boys wearing dark shades, black T-shirts and with their faces painted white, hammer out a beat on drums suspended from the back of a pickup truck.

It's when I watch Dick the cameraman shooting away that I begin to wonder why they need a writer on this trip at all. With images like this, words are anticlimactic. An adolescent male with a headdress bounces his painted rump, flashing a huge Julia Roberts smile while blowing kisses at the crowd. The smile disappears momentarily as he gestures for water. A teacher rushes in with frozen water in a plastic bag. The young prima donna pushes away the ice, butt still bouncing, arms still moving, demanding "I want mineral water."

According to Toto Cinco, the event organizer, a festival will live for only as long as the people believe in it. In Leyte, there's no doubt. A boy dances beside me, a tot in mismatched slippers, the left, four sizes larger than the tiny foot prancing inside it. He wears nothing more than briefs and a red loincloth, the small arms painted black and brown, and hair smeared with red paint. While the other dancers flag, exhausted by the long hours of parading and waiting, the boy pushes on, a look of fierce concentration on the gamin face. The army can't do better than hiring this little soldier.

There are the girls, all innocent allure, vivacious, vigorous and vibrant—a bright picture of flying skirts, tossing hair and audacity. There is no limit to what the dancers will do—near-naked young men roll on the scorching concrete, beautiful girls dance on top of moving ladders, and a boy clings to a bent pole whipped in a circle over our heads.

At the tail end of the parade, Efren, our coordinator, gives me a wink. "Dance with them," he says. I see Dick aiming his camera at me, I remember my job description, I see hips thrusting and feet kicking, grace and power and beautiful movement, I hear the drums pulsating and the crowd screaming—sometimes, a girl's got to do what a girl's got to do.

I jump in. And dance. May that tape be forever buried in the video archives.

The night we flew into Tacloban, I sat with the rest of the crew to figure out our plans for the week. Two of them rose to leave until they realized my coffee cup was half-full. In the interest of making a good first impression, I tried to gulp the coffee down fast—a difficult task when the coffee is hotter than Brad Pitt in "Ocean's Twelve." My boss stood up. "Take your time," he said. Then he adds with a smile: "*Bilisan mo lang.*"

There's much more to see, but a ticking clock is calling hurry, hurry, hurry, so I make the same promise General MacArthur made near half a century ago: "I shall return."

In the meantime, it's back to following bends in road and river, racing under a whipped cream June sky.

* * *

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Counterfeit drugs: A social menace

LIKE PIRATED DVDS, FAKE MEDICINES CAN BE FOUND IN THE PHILIPPINES. They include those for hypertension, diabetes and erectile dysfunction, and antibiotics, multivitamins and cough syrup, according to the Bureau of Food and Drugs.

It is estimated that counterfeits account for more than 10 percent of the global medicine market. Twenty-five percent of the medicines consumed in developing countries are believed to be counterfeit.

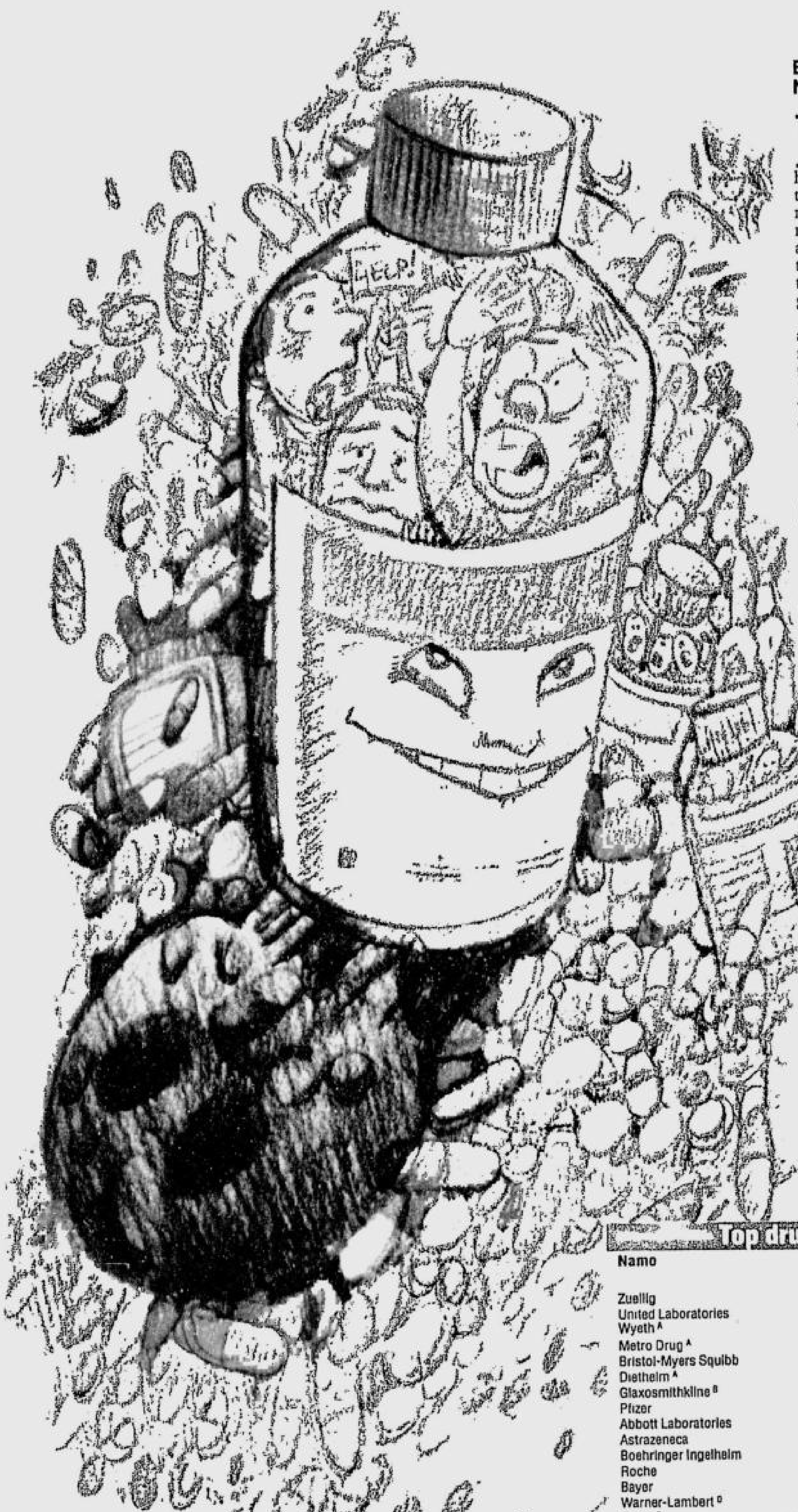
A recent study in The Lancet concluded that up to 40 percent of products labeled as containing *artusenate* (a medicine for combating malaria) had no active ingredients and therefore no therapeutic benefits.

Rich countries are not immune to the scourge of fake drugs. In the United Kingdom, officials seized 5,000 packets of counterfeit Tamiflu early this year, estimated to be worth 500,000 pounds.

Unlike pirated DVDs, fake medicines can kill people. So stopping the production and sale of fake drugs is a must.

The campaign against counterfeit drugs has a related story—low-priced imported medicines. Under Republic Act No. 8203, the Special Law on Counterfeit Drugs, an unregistered imported drug product is considered a counterfeit. This makes importing cheap drugs from India for distribution in the Philippines illegal.

Providing cheap medicines to the public is like extending a lifeline to those who cannot afford the prohibitive costs of drugs in the country.



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PAGE DESIGN ERNIE SAMBO

Be vigilant

By Maria Minerva P. Calimag, MD, DPBA, MSc

DRUG COUNTERFEITING is a worldwide concern, which by its very nature is hard to detect, investigate or quantify. It can apply to both brand name and generic drugs, which means that a product is deliberately and fraudulently labeled in a way that suggests that it is the authentic, approved product made by the genuine manufacturer.

They look so real even pharmacists are being fooled. The hard fact is that most of these drugs find their way into the local chain of pharmacies.

Counterfeit drugs can have the wrong ingredient, an insufficient quantity of the active ingredient or without the active ingredient at all. Packaging can also be faked with the use of sophisticated equipment capable of duplicating the authentic packaging.

Fake drugs also include expired products that have been re-labeled with new expiration dates.

Adulterated drugs are those that have lost some or all of their effectiveness from improper storage or handling. They are contaminated with bacteria and other microorganisms, or laced with other drugs that are not included in the label.

As physicians, our main concern is the fact that when undetected, the injured party in this unscrupulous trade is ultimately our patient. Counterfeit drugs hurt people, and oftentimes the victims are those in most need of real, quality drugs. Our patients depend on us and the medicines that we prescribe for the alleviation of their conditions.

It therefore behooves each one of us to be vigilant, so that we may be able to determine patterns of adverse drug events in our patients. Such events may even take the form of no drug effect. Never turn a deaf ear when patients complain of worsening symptoms or of unusual side effects after taking a prescription drug. It is crucial that we educate our patients to increase awareness regarding this growing social menace.

(Calimag is the chair of the committee on food and drugs, Philippine Medical Association.)

Learn to recognize fake medicines

By Nazarita Lanuza

FILIPINOS ARE NO STRANGERS to counterfeits. Walk through the aisles of any *tiangge*, and you'll find mountains of copycat goods. Designer labels are stitched onto anything from shirts to shoes, and original logos are copied on the covers of pirated DVDs and computer software. But there is one counterfeit that can harm or even kill you—counterfeit medicine.

Counterfeit medicines, as defined in Republic Act No. 8203 or The Special Law on Counterfeit Drugs, are deliberately and fraudulently mislabeled products that apply to both branded and generic drugs.

They contain no active ingredients or less than what is required. These also include those refilled in genuine containers by unauthorized persons if the legitimate labels or marks are used, or imported drugs, which are not registered with the Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD) except for personal use as confirmed and justified by accompanying medical records.

These medicines may be contaminated, contain dangerous ingredients, be outdated, or be completely without effect. Commonly copied drugs range from medicines for hypertension, diabetes and erectile dysfunction to antibiotics, multivitamins and cough syrup.

The prevalence of counterfeit medicines is considered a serious health issue because medicines play an important role in healthcare. Medicines prevent premature death, speed up healing and alleviate the symptoms of diseases that cannot yet be cured, making fake drugs all the more reprehensible. The intake of counterfeit medicine can lead to therapeutic failure, or in some cases, untimely death of the unsuspecting patient.

The BFAD, consistent with its mandate, is fighting a battle to protect the public against counterfeit medicines. Over the past months, BFAD was able to issue preventive closure orders to drugstores, and even *sari-sari* and grocery stores found to be selling counterfeit medicines.

Raids

BFAD had also conducted saturation drives and assisted in the conduct of raids and buy-bust operations in various cities. Just recently, BFAD and the World Health Organization conducted a workshop, which was participated in by different national law enforcement agencies. The workshop was held to develop a national plan of action for combating counterfeit medicines.

The bureau, however, is hard put doing an all-out drive against the illegal manufacture, importation and sale of counterfeit drugs due to the inadequacy of its resources. In addition, counterfeiting operations are becoming more sophisticated with each passing year.

In sustaining our efforts, the Samahan Laban sa Pekeng Gamot, a coalition that aims to inform and educate the public about the prevalence and perils of counterfeit medicines, has vowed to assist consumers become more vigilant about counterfeit medicines through a mass media-based public awareness campaign.

Hotline

The Samahan was able to set up a toll-free hotline (1-800-10-FAKEMED/325-3633) for consumers to report any suspected counterfeit drug product or counterfeiting activities. Cooperation at every level of society, from the national governments and its enforcement agencies all the way to the individual consumer is imperative to effectively curtail the distribution of counterfeit drugs in the country.

For this reason, the public is advised to learn to recognize a potential counterfeit drug i.e.—the lack of any generic name in the packaging. Search for a BFAD registration number, the lot and batch number, and the expiration date. Finally, check the texture, color and content of the medicine you take to see if it differs from the usual medicine you are taking.

(Lanuza is the chief regulation officer of the Bureau of Food and Drugs.)

Most commonly faked drugs

- Multivitamins
- Analgesics
- Antipyretic
- Antibiotics
- Steroids
- Antihypertensives

SOURCE BUREAU OF FOOD AND DRUGS

Top drug firms in the Philippines

Name	Sales (in million pesos) 2004	Sales (in million pesos) 1994	Profits (in million pesos) 2004	Profits (in million pesos) 1994
Zuellig	41,923	11,342	254	105
United Laboratories	17,271	7,507	1,419	1,195
Wyeth[A]	11,825	3,524	2,506	826
Metro Drug[A]	10,040		267	
Bristol-Myers Squibb	9,073	1,558	1,820	13
Diethelm[A]	7,925		67	
Glaxosmithkline[B]	7,458	-	1,036	-
Pfizer	6,966	728	382	89
Abbott Laboratories	4,381	1,656	475	268
Astrazeneca	3,383	-	330	
Boehringer Ingelheim	2,689	708	201	125
Roche	2,659	679	207	72
Bayer	2,064	1,665	255	110
Warner-Lambert[D]	-	1,263	-	202
Glaxo[B]	-	1,202	-	134
SmithKline Beecham Research[B]	-	663	-	-32
Astra Pharmaceuticals[C]	-	1,048	-	104

[A] Drug distributors (based on SEC classification Wholesale trade and commission trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles)
[B] Glaxo Wellcome and SmithKline Beecham merged in 2000.
[C] Merged with Zeneca PLC in April 1999.
[D] Acquired by Pfizer in 2000.

Compiled by Kate Pedroso, PDI Research

SOURCE: SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Amend patent system to lower drug prices

By Elpidio Peria

PEOPLE BUY FAKE MEDICINES because the genuine products are expensive. This argument is flawed.

The high prices of medicines and proliferation of fake ones are two different issues. Each issue needs to be examined separately.

First, let us establish why medicine is very expensive in the Philippines. Although the country was the first in Asia to pass a generic drugs law in the 1980s, we still rank second to Japan in having the highest medicine prices in the region.

Studies by the Department of Health and the Department of Trade in 1999 found that five out of every nine medicines cost more in the Philippines than in Malaysia or Indonesia. Another study conducted by Health Action International showed that Amoxil, an antibiotic manufactured by a multinational, sells at a higher price here than in the United Kingdom or Canada. Medicines in the Philippines are 18 times more expensive than those sold in India or Canada.

Monopoly

Statistics aside, the reason medicines in the country are expensive is the monopoly of multinational drug companies. They control around 70 percent of the Philippine pharmaceutical market. (*See table on top drug firms.*) Their dominance extends to production, registration, distribution, and, yes, even marketing. Small companies that attempt to offer a generic equivalent are often sent threatening letters to desist from their actions or be sued.

Another policy instrument of the state that multinational drug companies use to maintain their dominance in the market is the patent system. This is the reason Pfizer is suing the Bureau of Food and Drugs and Philippine International Trading Corp. for taking steps to register and import from India the lower-priced equivalent of its patented Norvasc.

Roxas bill

It is fortunate that Sen. Mar Roxas has filed Senate Bill No. 2139 to amend the existing patent system in the country to facilitate the production of low-priced medicines.

Second, people buy fake medicines not because they are expensive but because people do not have enough or correct information on what constitutes proper medication. The slick marketing efforts of multinational drug companies improperly link lower-priced medicines to fakes. In fact, in a typical Botika ng Bayan outlet, one question often asked by a buyer, unaware that lower-priced medicines are possible, is "Why is it cheap? Is it fake?"

Correct misimpression

The Department of Health should do a lot more to address this. It should issue a statement to correct the impression created by the current campaign against counterfeit drugs. It should emphasize that not all lower-priced medicines, particularly generic ones, are fake. Being part of the group against counterfeit medicines, it should call on the coalition to be more responsible in its print ads and media statements.

Republic Act No. 8203, the law banning counterfeit drugs, should be amended to remove the clause "an unregistered imported drug product" from the definition of a counterfeit drug. This makes it difficult for Filipino drug companies to import cheaper drug equivalents from India or Pakistan, as they are easily subjected to harassment by multinational drug companies should they attempt to register these imported drugs.

Remedy

Senate Bill 2139 seeks to remedy this. The measure proposes to incorporate the principle of international exhaustion of rights into our patent system. This means that the rights of a patent holder on any patented medicine sold outside the Philippines is already exhausted. The patent holder in the Philippines can no longer sue companies importing that patented drug. Those who seek to import these branded drugs can no longer be sued, an idea that is not practiced here because our patent system has set in place a national exhaustion of rights principle.

The bigger issue that should merit a robust debate is the Philippine patent system—how it perpetuates the dominance of multinational drug companies and how it keeps medicine prices in the country much higher than those in other parts of Asia.

The House of Representatives should, therefore, fast track the counterpart version of the Roxas bill and pass it before the end of the year. If there is one legislative achievement that members of Congress seeking reelection could brag about to their constituents, it is the bill amending the patent system. It could finally break the dominance of the multinationals in the Philippine market and enable the production of lower-priced medicines.

(Peria, a lawyer, is convenor of the Ayos na Gamot sa Abot-Kayang Presyo (Agap), a coalition of civil society organizations, health professionals, consumer groups, labor unions and key personalities.)

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600 troops sent to 6 Bulacan towns

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—More Army soldiers were sent to Bulacan's capital city and five adjoining coastal towns on Saturday, increasing to 600 the military's forces there, a fisherman's group reported on Saturday.

The soldiers operate now in Malolos City and the towns of Calumpit, Hagonoy, Paombong, Bulacan and Obando, according to Gerry Albert Corpuz, information officer of the Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya).

Quoting reports from local chapters, Corpuz said the movements of residents in Hagonoy have been controlled or restricted since last week after soldiers blocked several entry and exit points and established detachments in Barangays San Roque, Mercado, San Miguel, Sagrada and San Isidro.

In Malolos and the five towns, teams of between 10 and 20 soldiers take turns doing round-the-clock foot patrols in the villages daily, he said.

A few

But Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan, commander of the 7th Infantry Division operating in Central Luzon, disputed Corpuz's report.

"We're only a few there, not 600," Palparan said.

He declined to give the actual troop strength in the areas but said he would bring in more forces to flush out and capture the rebels.

Palparan said leaders and members of the Pamalakaya and the party-list group Anakpawis were being singled out in the campaign.

"*Sila ang nagbibigay ng problema diyan* (They're the ones causing problems there)," he said.

Asked what these problems were, he said those groups had been "intimidating civilians, recruiting for the [New People's Army], seizing fishponds or extorting P50,000 monthly from fishponds owners."

"It's necessary to single out those groups," he said.

Corpuz said the soldiers go from house to house, asking residents if they are supporters of the NPA, Corpuz told the INQUIRER by phone.

Usual suspects

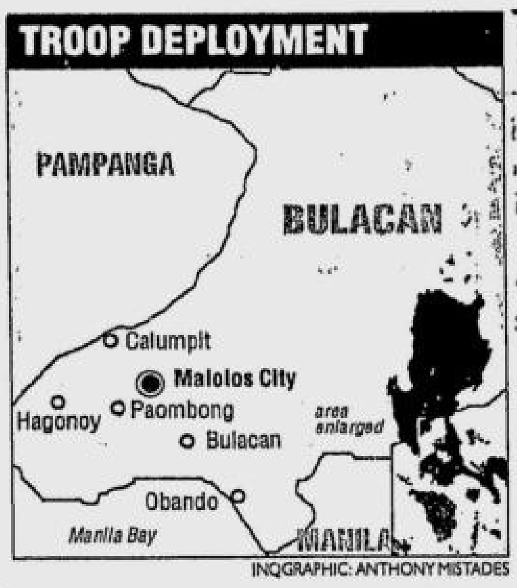
Leaders and members of Pamalakaya and Anakpawis are often singled out and accused of supporting the NPA, he said.

But he said they are "not ever engaged" in the activities that Palparan was attributing to them.

Corpuz said the strict watch by soldiers makes civilians afraid of reporting the situation to their local officials.

He claimed the "climate of terror has intensified" in Bulacan.

TROOP DEPLOYMENT



INQGRAPHIC: ANTHONY MISTADES

BLOOMS

VILLAMOR VISAYA JR./PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

A vendor displays fossilized roses at an agro-industrial booth during the Sambali Cagayana Festival that ran until June 29 in Tuguegarao City.

DepEd agrees to transfer school in Bulusan danger zone

SORSOGON CITY—THE Department of Education agreed to relocate an elementary school in Casiguran, which was found to be within the 4-km permanent danger zone around Bulusan Volcano.

Marilyn Dimaano, acting DepEd division superintendent, said she had conferred with the parents of the pupils enrolled at the Inlagadian Elementary School and they agreed to the transfer of classes to the Escuala Elementary School, the nearest school to the affected barangay.

This was the temporary solution to ensure the safety of the schoolchildren while the Sangguniang Bayan of Casiguran has yet to decide on the problem.

Inlagadian Elementary School was found to be 3.9 km away from the volcano, according to a survey of the Philippine Army, Casiguran mayor Edwin Hamor was quoted as telling Dimaano.

The DepEd official said that as agreed upon with the Parent-Teachers and Community Association, Grades 1-3 will hold classes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday while Grades 4-6 will conduct classes on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

The school has a total of 257 pupils with six teachers and one school head.

"We were constrained to agree to a permanent relocation to ensure the safety of the pupils and the faculty," said Dimaano.

She assured parents that the teachers have been trained on safety and disaster management and they have their own response plan in case of an emergency. *Bobby Q. Labalan, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Tricycles here to stay as drivers, operators gather in Iloilo confab

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

AT YOUR SERVICE PO!

ILLUSTRATION ANTHONY MISTADES

ILOILO CITY—TRICYCLES that have become part of the Filipino way of life and culture are here to stay.

Stakeholders of the country's tricycle transportation industry are gathered here for the three-day First National Conference on Tricycle Transportation Development to map out a national master plan to develop the industry.

"Tricycles are here to stay for (a long) time," said Jesus Cruz, president of the Vice Mayors' League of the Philippines, which organized the conference.

Manuel Jose Camagay, Research Associate at the University of the Philippines National Center for Transport Studies, said the conference is long overdue because the tricycles have been in existence for the last 50 years but its concerns have not been addressed by national government agencies.

Around 800 participants including vice mayors, chairs of municipal and city committees on transportation, leaders of transport groups and manufacturers will attend workshops and forums to discuss concerns confronting the sector like franchising and regulation, discipline of drivers on traffic rules and regulations and social welfare benefits.

The conference would also include sessions on sharing of best experiences on converting tricycles into more environment-friendly vehicles.

Interior Undersecretary Wencelito Andanar said there was a need for uniformity in regulation imposed by local government units.

Under the Local Government Code, the franchising and regulation of hired tricycles have been transferred to city or municipal councils.

Andanar said rules and regulation on public safety requirement should also be implemented, especially in remote areas where motorcycles and tricycles are the only means of transportation.

Cruz said the current thrust of development plans to institute mass transport systems and gradually phase out two-stroke engines mostly used by tricycles are only applicable in highly urbanized areas.

"We must take a holistic view in addressing the issue of air and noise pollution blamed among others on tricycles," Cruz said in a press conference.

Cruz said there are an estimated 1.2 million tricycle units with franchises and another 500,000 that are illegally plying routes, which comprise around 34 percent of the total number of public utility vehicles in the country.

He said an estimated 5.1 million families in the country depend on the operation of tricycle units for their income.

"We must come up with a plan that would address the environmental concerns but not jeopardize the means of livelihood of millions of Filipinos," said Cruz.

Quoting a study of the Asian Development Bank conducted in Quezon City and Puerto Princesa City in Palawan, Cruz said 84 percent of the population in these areas relies on tricycles as their means of transportation.

Cruz said the application for franchises to operate tricycles have increased "exponentially" in the last five to 10 years.

Iloilo City Mayor Jerry Treñas, president of the League of Cities of the Philippines, said most, if not all, of 117 cities in the country use tricycles as dominant mode of transportation.

Treñas said the introduction of new technology would raise earnings of those involve in the industry at the same time support efforts for cleaner air.

The tricycles have become integrated in the economy and the daily life of Filipinos that it would be complicated to eliminate or significantly reduce their numbers, said Camagay.

Camagay said the operation of tricycles should be integrated in development plans of local government units because these are the means of transportation for the populace and for carrying goods.

"It would be more complex to reduce it. What we can do is reduce the negative impact," Camagay told the INQUIRER.

> '...It would be more complex to reduce it. What we can do is reduce the negative impact...'

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INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

A legacy of T'boli brass casting, basketry

By Russtum Pelima
Contributor

IT IS RATHER A VERY COMPLEX and physical process, using the earth, water and fire."

This was how T'boli craftsman Awelado Samlang described in the vernacular his ancient craft and living tradition that he is passing on—brass casting.

Recently, Samlang taught 10 volunteers how to make bells and other art forms from molten brass. Now in his 60s, he learned brass casting in his early teens from his father.

Brass casting has been part of the T'boli tradition for many generations. The products have been used to adorn native women and men, and even prized horses.

"The T'boli women are known for their body ornaments. During ordinary days, they can be seen wearing several sets of beaded necklaces, multiple brass bracelets, brass or beaded dangling earrings," according to a fact sheet prepared by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP).

"Both the men and women wear brass ring in sets of five for each finger," it said.

Artistic wealth

The NCIP notes that the T'boli people have been known for their wealth of crafts. Living in the mountain ranges of Sarangani, South Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat provinces, they produce brass figures of humans and animals, bells and metal boxes.

Samlang uses charcoal, wooden ironing plates, potted clays, bee hives, and brass from junk shops to create his pieces.

Another elegant T'boli work of art is the *hilat*, which is made of hundreds of brass bells joined together to form the native belt that the people use in dancing and other community rites. The bells produce a sound distinct for the tribe.

The provincial government has recognized the priceless significance of the T'boli crafts. During the past two years, it has made efforts to upgrade the traditional skills in brass casting, basketry making, mat weaving, and beads making through its Indigenous Peoples Development Program (IPDP).

On June 20, the first batch of 10 native students of brass casting and 10 other students of basket making graduated after completing a month-long training in the IPDP's School of Living Tradition (SLT). The chic baskets of the volunteers trained by Lambanan Tagum were exhibited during the commencement exercises.

Preserving culture

"The main purpose of the SLT program is to preserve our culture," said program director Maribeth Famazo. "Look at our (T'boli) children today. They do not know how to dance the T'boli anymore."

"Given adequate fund and training, we can have more skilled T'bolis and [eventually an] increase in production," Famazo said.

Through its Indigenous People Culture and Traditional Arts Research, the IPDP aims to preserve the natives' literature and cultural practices which were handed down to younger generations by word of mouth.

The T'boli consitute the second largest group of indigenous people in Sarangani, after the B'laan. They live in the village of Falel in Barangay Tamadang and in nearby Barangay Salakit.

T'boli communities are also found in several barangays of Maitum town, near the boundary of South Cotabato. Across the Daguma mountain range from Maitum and Kiamba are the municipalities of T'boli and Lake Sebu.

Nenita Barroso, provincial trade director, said the celebration of "Yaman Mindanao" in the region next month would give a chance for the T'boli to showcase their crafts.

"There is an opportunity to market these products. Manufacturers will buy them in big volumes when we can produce more," Barroso said.

Nonformal education

Among the expected visitors are European buyers and investors from Brunei, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Provincial Board Member Arturo Lawa, chair of the indigenous people and cultural development committee, said he would sponsor a resolution to include brass casting and basket making in the nonformal education program in Sarangani.

Board member Rommel Falgui, a native of Kiamba, pledged to provide P20,000 as initial assistance fund for the *lumad* of his own.

Kiamba, 93 kilometer west of General Santos City, is a melting pot of diverse cultures. It has 48,000 inhabitants who include the B'laan, Sangil, T'boli, Ilocano, Cebuano, Boholano, Waray, Bicolano and Kapampangan.

AWELADO Samlang (middle), is the only living brass caster in South Cotabato.

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RP agri doing bad, but gov't to stick to WTO

LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET—THE agriculture sector has performed poorly since the country's membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 1994 but the Department of Agriculture is far from rethinking the wisdom of becoming a member of the trade body.

Jerome Bunyi, a WTO expert of the DA's policy, research and services, said the idea of a WTO withdrawal for the Philippines is farfetched even if the country's trade negotiators are finding it difficult to win favorable concessions from developed countries.

Bunyi discussed the effects of the WTO on agriculture on Friday here, the last day of Benguet State University's 90th founding anniversary celebrations.

"We will lose more if we think of withdrawing from the WTO. Besides, we have to face the realties of globalization or else we will be left out," he said.

The Senate ratified the country's membership in the WTO in 1994, which compelled domestic agriculture to commit adjustments in import tariffs, domestic support services and export subsidies.

Bunyi said from 1994 to 2004, agriculture posted a modest average growth rate of 3 percent, save for "exceptional performances" in banana, pineapple and coconut exports.

"But agriculture suffered stagnant productivity as our local markets showed poor competitiveness," Bunyi said.

The results were saddening, he said, as the country turned from a "net agri exporter" in the early 90s into a "net agri importer" in the mid 1990s during the WTO membership.

But these results were largely due to domestic factors and not because of the country's commitments to the WTO, Bunyi said.

"The modest growth was brought about by unstable weather conditions, like the El Niño, and the Asian financial crisis in 1997-1998 that impacted on the local economy," he said.

These two factors, he said, disturbed the continuous growth of agricultural products as they made economy a "boom and bust" type, meaning unstable and lackluster, and made the infusion of domestic capital scarce and expensive.

Bunyi, who was one of the country's negotiators in the 6th WTO Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong in December last year, said a crucial factor that stunted agriculture growth for the next 10 years after the WTO membership was the lack of domestic support.

For instance, he said, safety nets had been provided for agriculture to cushion the impact of free trade but the government failed to fully provide its part of the bargain.

Bunyi cited the lack of funds allotted for the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (Republic Act No. 8435) that could have enhanced agricultural research and development, and modernized agriculture production.

"This domestic support is needed to boost local production even if it is costly to enforce and maintain," he said.

The 2006 reenacted national budget allotted P15 billion to the DA, which is less than half of the P32 billion required by the Afma.

Delmar Cariño, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

ARNOLD ALMACEN/PDI VISAYAS BUREAU

WAR DANCE
Members of a tribe in Badiangan, Iloilo perform a war dance during the celebration of the Pandayan Festival in the town on June 23. The festival seeks to salute the town's effort to promote its residents as skilled, responsible and dignified workers.

20 Pampanga officials go to HK on a 'junket'

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—AT least 20 officials of the Pampanga provincial government left for Hong Kong on Thursday in what Vice Gov. Joseller Guiao said was a junket sponsored by Gov. Mark Lapid.

Provincial Administrator Fidel Arcenas on Friday confirmed the departure of the department heads but said that was not for any official business.

"I think it's personal," Arcenas said.

He could not say if the officials went together for a vacation.

But he denied that their fare and pocket money were shouldered by Lapid. "They paid for their own," Arcenas said.

A travel order obtained by the INQUIRER from a capitol source showed that Lapid authorized on June 22 the June 29-July 2 travel.

Some in the list are not known to be regular travelers abroad, a check with some capitol employees showed.

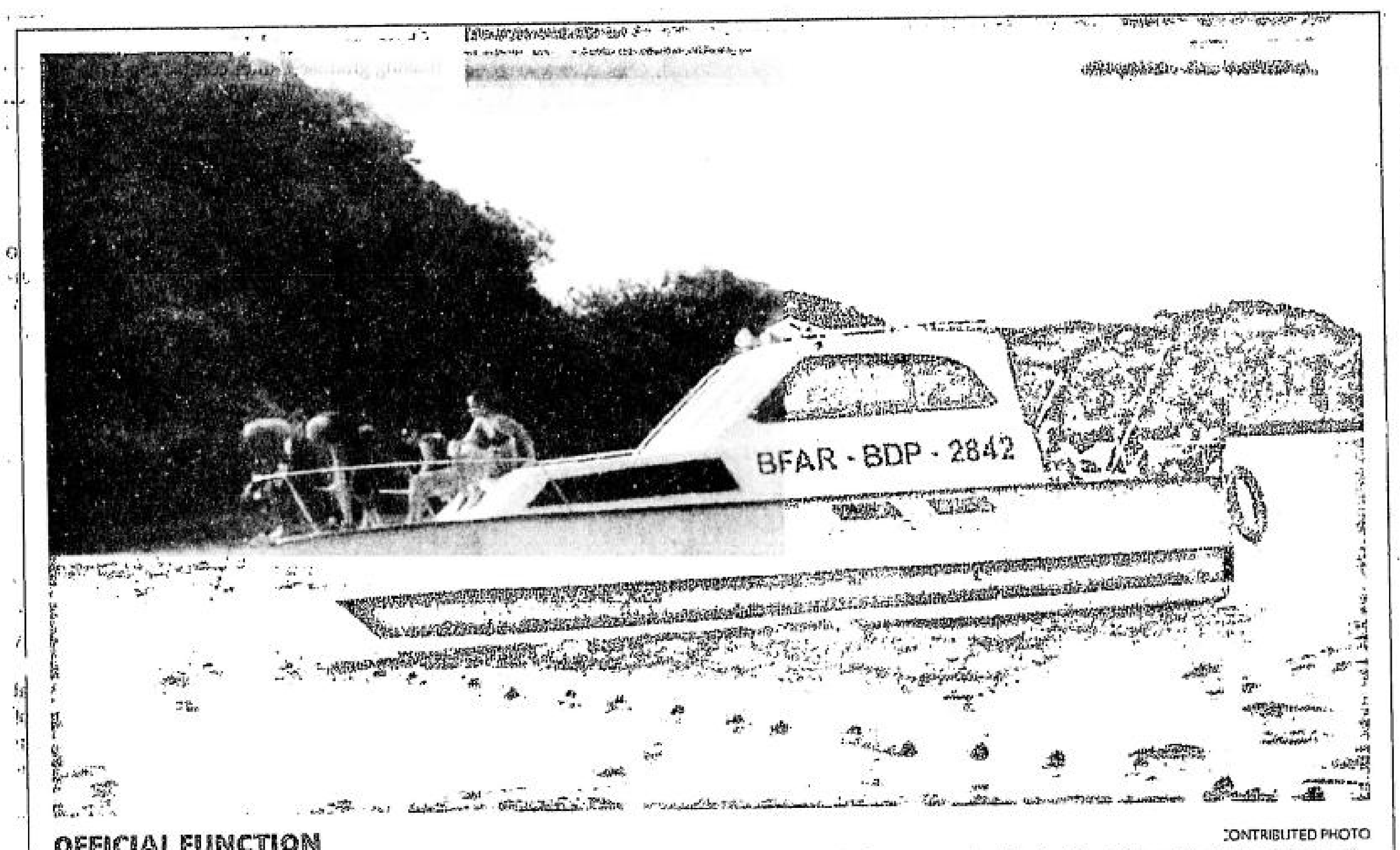
In the order, Lapid said "it is understood that the travel shall not entail the disbursement of public funds."

Administrative Order No. 103, which encouraged austerity measures in government, suspended foreign travels except for ministerial meetings and trainings that are grant-funded or undertaken at no cost to the government.

Arcenas said the services of the capitol went on as usual even in the absence of those officials because their assistants continued their functions.

Guiao questioned why the officials took their leave all at the same time, saying those were "key officials" of the provincial government.

In 2004, an anonymous complainant sent a letter to the Civil Service Commission in Central Luzon to disclose that capitol officials made foreign travels almost every month. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

OFFICIAL FUNCTION
Bikini-clad women enjoy a ride aboard a boat of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources inside the Giant Clam Protected Area of the Hundred Islands in Pangasinan. As they were not supposed to be there, some people from another boat shouted at them to get out of the protected area, but without letting them escape with this shot.

Town runs out of funds for phone, electricity

SAN FRANCISCO, AGUSAN del Sur—The local government here can no longer pay for its telephone, water and electric bills since the funds allocated for these basic necessities at the town hall and the public market have already been exhausted.

Honorato Nacorda, municipal treasurer, told the Sangguniang Bayan that appropriations for water bills amounting to P600,000 and P230,000 for telephone bills have already ran out while only P130,000 in funds are left from the P1.4 million annual allocations for electricity usage.

Nacorda has asked the SB members to appropriate more funds through another supplemental budget to sustain the smooth operations of the local government and not imperil the delivery of basic services of the town hall and the Municipal Public Shopping Mall.

But opposition SB member Joselito Beldad shrugged off the distress call, saying the local government did not experience it last year.

"What else is new here? This has been going on since last year," Beldad said as he blamed financial managers of the local government for not adhering to the quarterly budget allocations which caused the perennial deficit of the town's coffers.

A similar problem was faced by the local government last December when they received a notice of disconnection from the San Francisco Water District and the Agusan del Sur Electric Cooperative for overdue accounts.

This prompted Nacorda to negotiate with the Land Bank of the Philippines to allow the local government to use its P900,000 yearly loan amortization to pay for its three-month water and electric bills.

SB members agreed to replenish the bank obligation this year by allocating the amount for this year's budget but the plan fizzled out when they and Mayor Carl Elias Lademora never reached an agreement for an increased 2006 budget.

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SER- 'DI PO AKO MAKATAWAG WALA TAYONG DIALTONE!

ILLUSTRATION STEPH BRAVO

The proposal to allocate a new budget to prevent a cutoff of telephone, water and electric connections next month will also be remote since this has not been part of the yet another controversial proposed supplemental budget passed by the SB members.

Lademora vetoed several items in the ordinance after his additional P118,000 intelligence fund and P687,300 fund for the unpaid three-month salary of casuals in his office were not included in the proposed supplemental budget.

The mayor also did not agree that his P1.5 million budget for the purchase of a new vehicle was slashed by P345,000 by the SB committee on finance, budget and appropriations.

The committee is chaired by his erstwhile strong ally, now bitter rival SB member Nila Palabrica.

"I manifest my refusal to sign and approve the ordinance lest public service by which we are bound to do would be sacrificed," Lademora said in his veto message sent to SB members during Wednesday's regular session.

Last week, Vice Mayor Joselito Beldad offered to sacrifice his P650,000 allocation for his new vehicle in favor of the unpaid casual wages and the repair of the clogged up drainage system around the town poblacion.

Chris V. Panganiban, PDI Mindanao Bureau

ROUNDUP

3 killed in NLEx mishap

MARILAO, Bulacan—A driver and his two companions were killed on Friday when their delivery van hit a dump truck along the southbound lane of the North Luzon Expressway here. Reports from the Manila North Tollways Corp.'s (MNTC) traffic management center said the delivery van's helpers, Arnel Jain and Joselito Urbino, died instantly. The van driver, Filomeno Adena, died while being taken to the Manila Central University Hospital in Caloocan City. MNTC reports said Adena fell asleep while at the wheel, causing the van to hit the rear of the dump truck that he was tailing along the Barangay Patubig section of the NLEx.

Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Banaue loses stalls to fire

BAGUIO CITY—The tourist town of Banaue in Ifugao lost a major income generator when a fire razed a row of stalls selling souvenir items in Barangay Viewpoint there on June 19. Banaue Mayor Jerry Dalipog said the fire lasted for an hour and destroyed about P7 million worth of souvenir items such as woodcarvings, woven cloth, jewelry and trinkets, and souvenir shirts sold in at least 18 stalls. The stalls were built in the view deck of Barangay Viewpoint. Dalipog said before the fire struck, the local government had planned to build a new two-story view deck to accommodate more tourists.

Desiree Caluza and EV Espiritu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Mayor says guns not his

DI SA'KIN YUN!

TUGUEGARAO CITY—Mayor Eulogio Agatep Jr. of Lasam, Cagayan, said the firearms seized by suspected communist rebels from his relatives' house on June 20 were all licensed and intended for barangay officials in his town. Agatep said the five shotguns, an Armalite rifle and bullets were kept in the house of his relatives in Barangay Callao Sur in Lasam before their distribution. He also disputed claims of the New People's Army that the house was his armory and "jueteng" draws were held there. He said he believed that the raid was orchestrated by his political rivals and not by NPA rebels.

Villamor Visaya Jr. and Estanislao Caldez, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Quake shakes Ilocos Norte

LAOAG CITY—A 3.1 magnitude earthquake hit this capital city of Ilocos Norte on Thursday night but there were no reports of injuries or damage, the Philippines Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said. The quake's epicenter was located 31 km southwest of Laoag. It was felt at intensity 3 in Pasuquin and Paoay towns, and intensity 2 in Sinait, Sto. Domingo and Santa towns in Ilocos Sur, and Baguio City. The quake struck two days after a magnitude 4 tremor hit Vigan City in Ilocos Sur.

Cristina Arzadon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Politics rears ugly head

DIGOS CITY—Even as elections would be held next year yet, the wind of politics has already swept Davao del Sur as the two representatives of the province announced their intention to run in the gubernatorial elections. Rep. Douglas Cagas of the first district said President Macapagal-Arroyo has pledged to back his gubernatorial bid. Cagas has lately been visiting areas in the second district, which is under Rep. Claude Bautista. In his visits, Cagas would always criticize the leadership of the second congressional district. Bautista also became highly visible in various public gatherings in the first district.

Eldie Aguirre, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Motorcyclist dies in crash

DIGOS CITY—A motorcycle-riding man was killed after he drove into a steel barricade at a police checkpoint in Barangay Colorado here last week. Police said Elizer Carillo, a resident of De Guzman St. in Toril, Davao City, apparently failed to notice the barricade on Sunday evening and crashed his motorcycle into it. The barricade was put up to slow down vehicles as police authorities here tightened security following the Maguindanao blast. Carillo was brought to the Davao del Sur provincial hospital here but he died before doctors could treat him.

Eldie S. Aguirre, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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How to make a Philippine quilt

Sewing as art project encourages community participation and empowerment

By DJ Yap

FOR the past weeks, people have been trooping to a gallery in Cubao, Quezon City, to sew, write or draw their answers to the question "Are you free?" on square pieces of cloth which are then stitched together to form a quilt.

PHOTOS BY RODEL ROTONI

AN UNFINISHED QUILT MADE OF little squares of cloth and made by several dozen hands is hung on a wall inside the Liongoren Gallery in Cubao, Quezon City.

Written, drawn or sewn onto each strip of textile are words and images answering the question: "Malaya ka ba (Are you free)?"

One answer went (in Filipino): "Am I free? I have no cell phone. I'm not obliged to reply to anyone. I'm never forced to answer calls made by others. I don't survive on simple, forwarded messages. I live by my own consciousness. Yes, I am free."

Another said: "I'm not free because I'm always being asked to clean the house and babysit the kids."

Yet another square shows a drawing of a man saying, "(I've been free) for a long time." But the man is blindfolded.

The meaning of freedom

For the past weeks since Independence Day (June 12), artist Alma Quinto has been inviting small groups of people to sit down in a quiet corner of the gallery and express what freedom means to them.

The guests are told to write, draw or even sew their answers on colorful strips of cloth, which are pieced together to form a quilt.

The project—sponsored by the Philippine Long Distance and Telephone Co. and Nippon Foundation—is aimed not only at uncovering the Filipino psyche through his idea of freedom, but also at creating an art form that involves not just one, but many communities, Quinto said.

In the next few months, the quilt will grow in size and importance as the artist takes it with her to different places across the country, collecting more stories and new perspectives about art and freedom.

Going to the people

"We'll take it to schools, markets, far-flung provinces... and other non-art spaces. The art is going to the people," she said.

By June 12, 2007, the project will have been complete, she said. "We plan to mount it in an exhibition. We're considering Rizal Park as the venue since it's Independence Day."

Curator Norma Liongoren said the quilt was a type of art that only a community, or a group of communities, can develop.

"Just the mere fact that the project links people..., to me, this is already art, of course, while taking into account the form, color and expression," she added.

Community art

Traditional art often engages only an elite segment of society, a small representation of the population, but community art, like Quinto's quilt, "gives voice" to the people, Liongoren said.

"This quilt is like a human chain, but it's more realizable than a physical chain. It is much easier to involve people through art. Talking about freedom (through art) removes inhibitions," she said.

Quinto added: "The project emphasizes audience participation and empowerment. They are asked to use non-art materials like used clothes and garments, and transform them into art."

Her project is actually the other half of a collaborative exhibition with Indonesian artist Nerfita Primadewi, who works with text messages, specifically, collecting "treasured texts" of Filipinos, or the messages they keep in their phones.

Digital media

If Quinto uses low-tech needlework and tapestry, Primadewi employs digital media like videos, computers and cellular phones for her exhibition, in which she presents some of the treasured texts she has collected.

So far, most of those who have participated in Quinto's textile project are friends and peers, as well as members of Cribs (Create Responsive Infants By Sharing), a cause-oriented group with whom Quinto has worked for years.

Liongoren said they had also invited housewives, Bible study participants, neighbors and grade school pupils. Almost all were women or girls, and fully half were children, she noted.

"Maybe, it's because needlework and textiles are still considered feminine. But we're trying to involve more people, especially when we begin going to the communities," she said.

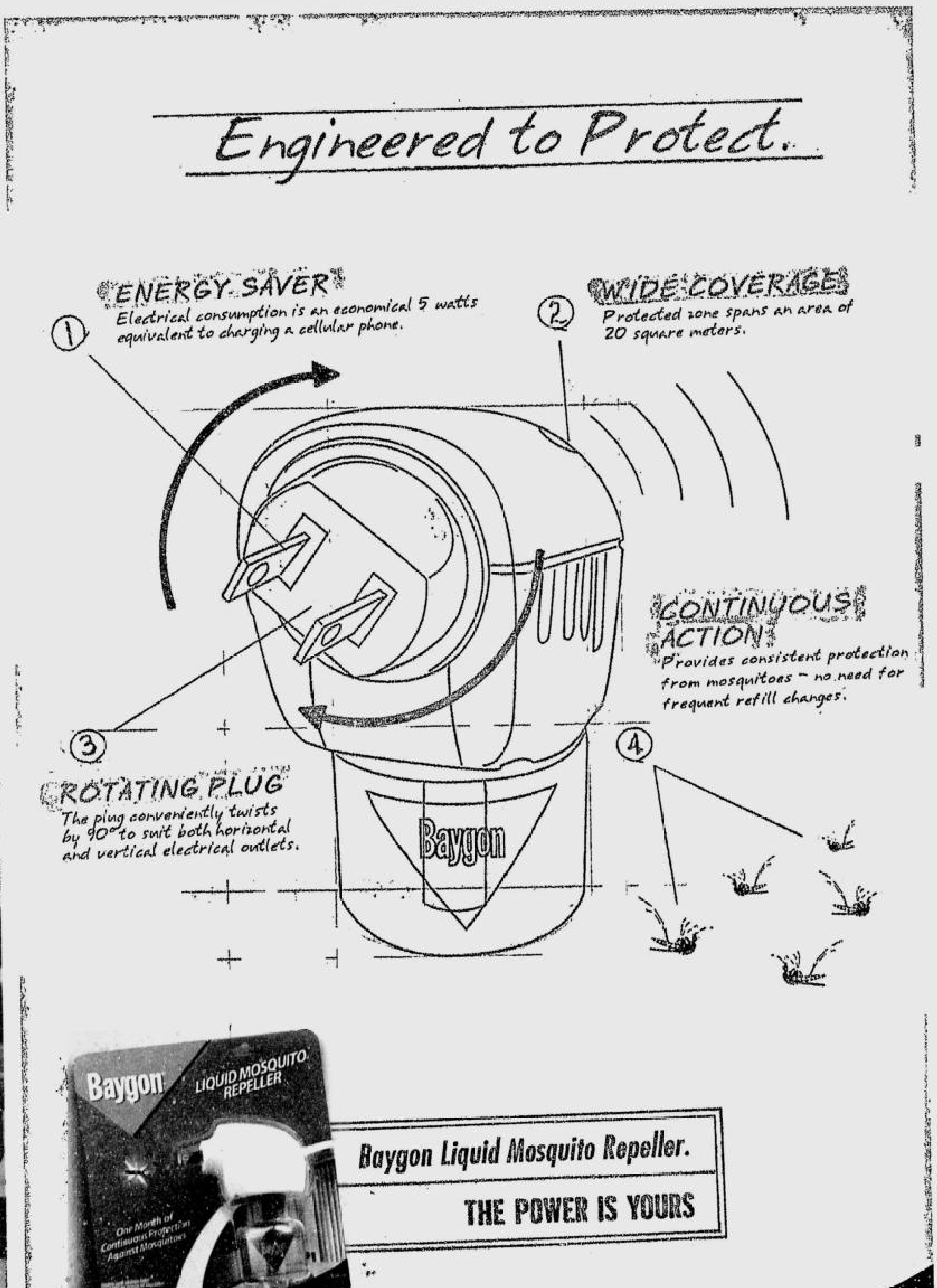
Diverse responses

Quinto added that the responses were so diverse, spanning political, economic, religious and familial spectra.

"Some of them would equate freedom with purchasing power, considering the rising prices of goods, while others would look at

HOW TO MAKE/ A18

THE PEOPLE behind the making of the quilt: (from left) curator Norma Liongoren of Liongoren Gallery, artists Alma Quinto and Nerfita Primadewi who is from Indonesia.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By Nancy C. Carvajal

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POLICE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT
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THE "EXTENDED FAMILY" of Chief Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil who is shown with wife Gina, their two girls and the children of slain reporter Albert Orsolino. PHOTOS BY ERIK ARAZAS

TALES OF THE CITY

NEWS THAT HE HAD PROMISED TO HELP the children of a slain journalist did not come as a surprise to colleagues and friends of Chief Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil, the director of the Northern Police District.

In areas where he was previously assigned, there had always been stories about the help he had extended to families of police or military personnel who were killed in the line of duty.

When Bataoil was the police director of Negros Occidental in 1996, he helped raise money for the kin of 11 Army men who were killed in an attempt to rescue 15 people taken hostage by the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan.

The slain soldiers used to be assigned in Negros. Some of them had even gotten married to Negrense women during their tour of duty.

That same year, the province was chosen as the "Best Police Provincial Office of the Year" for being the first unit to put up a children and women's desk in all its police precincts.

Last February, right after he was sworn in as NPD chief, he granted scholarships to 10 policemen who wanted to finish college.

Bataoil's latest scholars, however, are not policemen but the children of reporter Albert Orsolino, of the tabloid Saksi, who was killed in an ambush in Caloocan City last May.

"I never expected that help would come from the police, knowing that sometimes media men and policemen do not see eye to eye on certain issues," said Maria Eliza, Orsolino's widow.

Up to college

Earlier this month, Bataoil signed a memorandum with the police chiefs of the areas under his jurisdiction—Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas and Valenzuela—in which they promised to shoulder the educational expenses of the slain reporter's children until they finish college.

Orsolino left behind five children: Albert, 12; Almar, 10; Alissa, 7; Alvin, 4 and Aldrich, 2.

Affinity for media men

"My constant association with members of media in the course of my duty has made me closer to reporters," Bataoil said, when asked why he had offered to help the Orsolino family.

Before his appointment to the NPD top post, Bataoil had served as the spokesperson of the Philippine National Police.

He added that as the fifth child in a family of nine, his parents had taught him and his siblings to look out for each other and to be helpful to other people.

Orsolino's children, however, won't be the first that Bataoil and his wife Gina have taken under their care.

Adopted children

"I have two adopted daughters—Carmela, 14 and Angela, 9—whom Gina and I love very much," the police official said.

Bataoil and his wife decided to adopt the two girls after years of trying to have children. "With our two girls, we are complete. We are happy to be given the chance to be with them," he said.

When their daughters were younger, according to Bataoil, he always told them that he was grateful to the Lord for giving them to him and Gina.

"But now, they are the ones telling us that they always thank God that He gave us to them," the police official said.

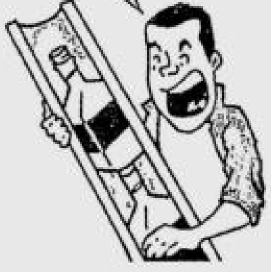
BATAOIL inspects one of the stations under his command as chief of the Northern Police District.

METROBRIEFS

9 rob suspects charged

THE POLICE have arrested 10 suspects since launching two months ago its drive against robbers in three barangays in Muntinlupa City. Residents of Barangays Alabang, Cupang and Sucat had earlier complained about the numerous cases of robberies and snatching incidents in their areas. Most of the victims were employees who worked the night shift, City Hall said yesterday. The police reported to Mayor Jaime Fresnedi that nine of the 10 arrested suspects have already been charged with theft and robbery at the city prosecutor's office. The suspects were identified as Romeo Bascones, Alberto Guanico, Cesar Yap, Muhalidin Banisil, Jamail Mamanicao, Marlon Reyes, Wilfredo Dizon, Jay-ar Fuentes, Carter Kaldiver and Leosito Patapat. *Jocelyn R. Uy*

Smuggling attempt foiled



AGENTS of the National Bureau of Investigation the other day seized an estimated 1,500 bottles of alcohol concealed in marble pillars inside a container van. NBI Anti-Organized Crime Division chief Oscar Embido said the van was intercepted near Paco Park in Manila. He explained that the operation was conducted after the NBI received information that a syndicate was smuggling alcohol to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia where the substance is banned. "The syndicate reportedly conceals the alcohol inside marble columns," he said, adding that their informant also told the NBI that the columns contained 150 bottles each. Embido said that each bottle, worth P1,000, would be sold at P3,500 abroad. "We will be filing charges of technical smuggling against shipper Lou Edward Enterprises which is based in Silang, Cavite," Embido added. *Margaux C. Ortiz*

Cops impound 2 trucks

AUTHORITIES in Valenzuela City impounded two trucks carrying over P1 million worth of rice from the National Food Authority (NFA) on Friday evening. "The drivers were not able to produce documents when asked to show proof that they were authorized by the NFA to have custody of the cargo." said city police chief, Supt. Billy Beltran. He added that the trucks, which were carrying at least 500 sacks of rice each, were apprehended by operatives of the Special Weapons and Tactics team who were on patrol in Mapulang Lupa. The police are also investigating six men—the truck drivers, two helpers and two other men who identified themselves as NFA rice retailers. *Nancy C. Carvajal*

Burn victim needs help

THELMA Panes, a 32-year-old woman, was badly burned when someone threw gasoline at her and set her on fire in May 2004. She sustained second and third degree burns on her face and chest and her right arm and mouth became deformed. Since then, Thelma has been having difficulty eating and drinking. According to burn specialist Dr. Ernesto De Ruña, she must undergo five surgeries and a series of eye operations to ensure that her vision, which was also affected, would go back to normal. Thelma alone cares for her three children after her husband abandoned her in 2002. She only relies on the earnings from her sari-sari store for her family's keep. Those who want to help Thelma can contact Carmen Flor, governor-elect of the Soroptimist International of the Philippines, at 8941754, 8969641 or 8178346. Donations may also be sent to SIP Region Headquarters at 4006 Cordillera St., Barangay Olympia in Makati City.

How to make ...

From page A17

the history of foreign invasion on our shores," she said.

The real goal behind the art project is not to determine whether or not Filipinos consider themselves to be a free people, but simply to encourage discourse, Quinto pointed out.

No wrong answers

Liongoren said: "There are no right or wrong answers here. Just answer the question according to how you feel."

"If you're a child, you won't need any prompting to answer the question, Are you free or not? But when you become an adult, you tend to think too much," she told the INQUIRER.

Filipino identity

Once the quilt is completed, an art form that embraces Filipino identity will have been created, and so much will be learned about how Filipinos look at themselves and their country, Quinto said.

"There's so much to explore just from answering how we view freedom. In the end, we'll see the kind of people we are," she stressed.

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This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world, and wherever work can be contracted to secure a better life for their families. These are their stories.

The House of 100 DHs

By Gian S. Camacho
Contributor

DESPITE THE CRAMPED space and stale air, domestic helper applicants Jamaica and Normida's spirits are buoyed by the thought of a better life abroad as they wait for their papers to be processed.

They are just two of some 100 female applicants waiting for their flights in a house on one of Malate's narrow alleys. The house is a halfway house for applicants from different regions of the country.

Recruited from the southern parts of the country, all the applicants in the house are Muslims.

The high cost of travel has made living in the halfway house a better alternative than going back and forth to their provinces.

Cramped in the modestly-sized house, the women often stay on the alley outside during the day, surprising and amusing passersby. One neighbor joked he thought the house was a brothel when he first moved to the neighborhood.

"It really tends to become uncomfortable in this house, especially at night. In the evening, we just look for whatever space there is for sleeping," says Jamaica, who has lived in the house for two months now.

Despite the discomfort, new residents arrive steadily every month. "Our employers are usually based in KSA (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) and Lebanon and are Muslims. Because we are Muslims, too, we have a better chance of getting employed," says Normida, who is leaving for her third stint in the Middle East as a domestic helper.

Cramped but fun

The women admitted it was quite uncomfortable to live in the house with 100 others but it was also fun.

"It can be hard living but you can make new friends here, too," says Jamaica. "Whenever somebody leaves, we have small parties to celebrate. The same thing happens when somebody returns."

Household chores are shared by the "housemates," who are divided into groups to take turns doing the chores. They prepare a calendar of activities to remind everyone of the day's assignments. The chores range from cleaning the toilet to doing the laundry.

"It is important to carry out one's responsibilities in this house. Doing one's assignments ensures order and harmony in the house," adds Normida.

Applicants usually stay in the house for about two months, the time it takes for papers to be processed. Jamaica and Normida expect their papers to arrive soon.

Despite the alarming number of reported cases of sexual and physical abuse of domestic helpers in the Middle East, the women are unfazed. Most of them are "veterans," going to the Middle East for the second or third time.

Taboos

"It's not really that bad for us Pinays abroad. It's up to you if you get beaten or punished. Arabs will only get mad if you do something they don't approve of like flirting with men which is *haram* or taboo in Islam," says one of the housemates who doesn't want to be identified. "Do you think I'll be here if the situation is really that ugly there?" she asks.

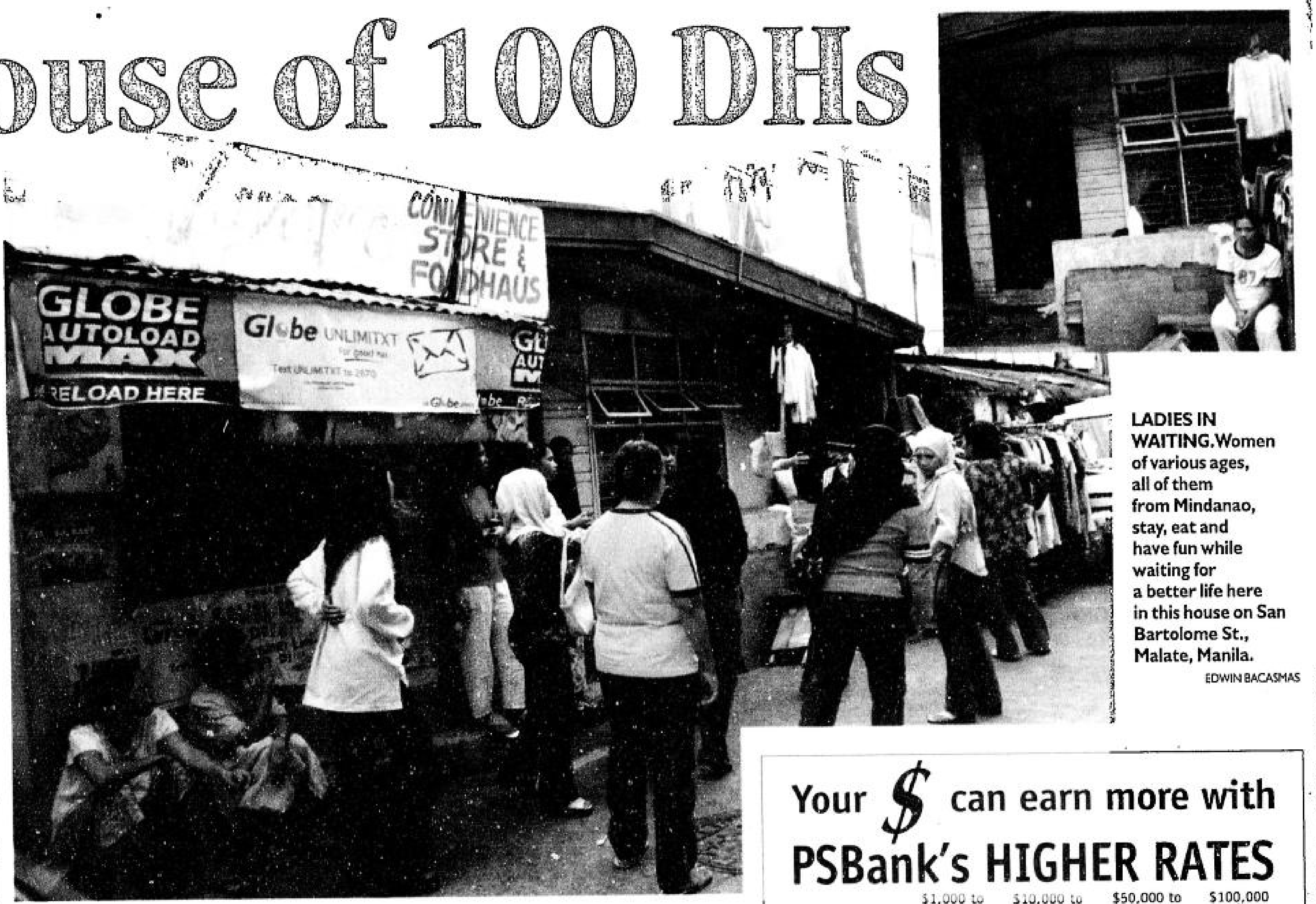
Jamaica, who is leaving for the second time, says she felt the jitters when she left the first time. The veterans agreed they felt great but nervous at the same time when they first left.

"I felt rich and famous when I boarded my first airplane. But the extravagant feeling gradually disappeared when I began working as a maid," Jamaica admits laughing.

Dream

Asked about her future plans, she says this job will hopefully be her last. She's planning to save money for a new house in

HOUSE/ A20



LADIES IN WAITING. Women of various ages, all of them from Mindanao, stay, eat and have fun while waiting for a better life here in this house on San Bartolome St., Malate, Manila.

EDWIN BACASMAS

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IN THE SERVICE OF HER MAJESTY: Taguiang readies table at the Mansion House, residence of the Lord Mayor of London

COURTESY OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN MANILA

Guess who served lunch at Queen Elizabeth's 80th

By Nikko Dizon

IN 1975, AUREA TAGUIANG AND HER HUSBAND, Alfonso, left the Philippines to find a better life in England. The youngest of their six children was then only 11 months old.

In her 31 years there, Taguiang had already experienced serving Britain's royalty, including Queen Elizabeth II herself.

Taguiang led the team that served Britain's Queen during her 80th birthday lunch at Mansion House, the residence of the Lord Mayor of the City of London last June 15.

"It is my greatest honor to serve the Queen," Taguiang said in a press statement released by the British Embassy in Manila. "It had been my dream as a child."

As a young girl in Malasiqui, Pangasinan, Taguiang recalled singing rhymes about the Queen. Taguiang has served the Lord Mayors of London and their guests for the last 20 years.

The sterling guest list included the late Princess Diana and Baroness Margaret Thatcher.

As a senior member of the Mansion House waitstaff, Taguiang also recently serve Supreme Court Justice Artemio Panganiban when he was a guest of Lord Mayor David Brewer.

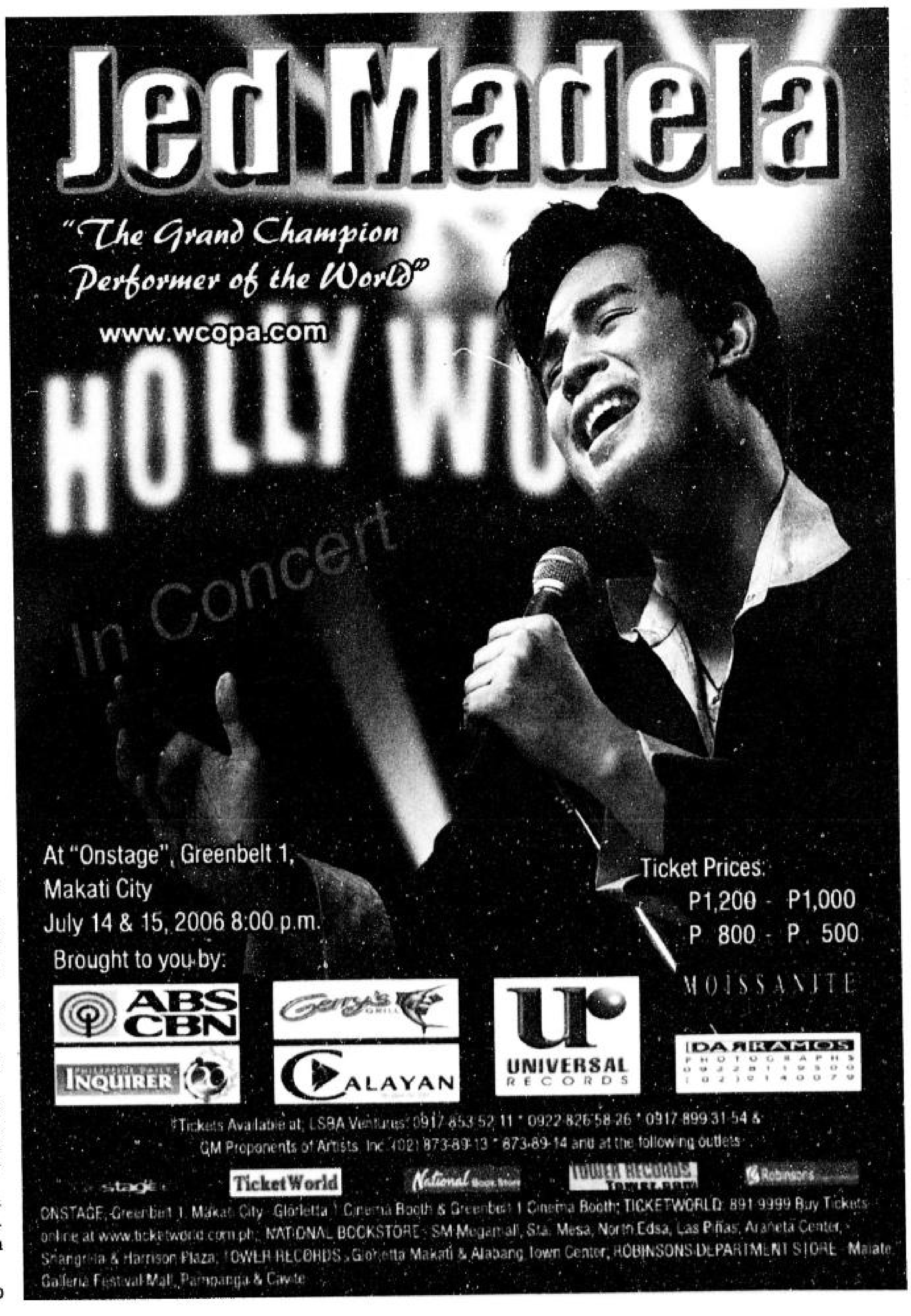
It was during that visit of Panganiban that the Lord Mayor indicated that Taguiang would be serving the Queen at her birthday lunch.

Taguiang had served the Queen once before in 1999.

Upon setting foot in England, the Taguiang couple entered the catering industry. Suffice it say, the couple became successful, was able to send their six children to school, and eventually bringing the four youngest to England.

In 1986, Taguiang earned a post in the prestigious Mansion House, which the embassy described as one of the grandest surviving Georgian town palaces in London.

GUESS/ A20



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Pinoys dying to go to Iraq

By Isabel T. Escoda

DESTITUTE CHINESE PAYING "snakehead" syndicates to be smuggled into the US and England, indigent Mexicans trafficked by "coyote" gangs to sneak across the border into the US, impoverished Africans boarding boats to enter Spain clandestinely, desperate Arabs sailing to Australia to seek asylum—it's a worldwide phenomenon.

Adding to the list are Filipinos who, according to latest reports, have been defying a Philippine government ban to work in Iraq. There are conflicting reports about the numbers now working illegally in that war-torn country. Hired by foreign contractors, they work as menials and security guards (some of whom serve practically as mercenaries for the Americans).

Desperate

One thing is certain: the wish to work anywhere in the world, no matter how dangerous, is strong among many desperate Pinoys. And it isn't just men, but women as well.

Not long after truck driver Angelo dela Cruz's brief abduction in Baghdad in 2004, after which President Arroyo caved in to Iraqi threats by pulling out the Filipino contingent (and upsetting her American ally), I was in a crowded underground train in Kowloon. The middle-aged Filipina standing beside me was whining in Cebuano into her cellphone about her abusive employer. When she hung up I asked her "*Dugay ka na ba dinhi?*" (Have you been here long?). Turning to me in surprise, she said she'd been in the territory for five years. I asked what the trouble was with her employer and she looked disgruntled as she said something racist about the Chinese—remarks best left unrepeated.

Liking Angelo

"I'll just go home and apply for a job in Iraq," she said seriously. So I asked if she wouldn't worry about getting abducted or killed, to which she replied, "*Sagdilang*!" (Never mind), adding, "If that happens, at least my children would have a good life. Look at Angelo dela Cruz now—he got a hero's welcome, cash gifts and an assured education for his children. The government only pays attention if something really bad happens to you."

Her tone of bitterness was unmistakable, and before I could pursue the conversation, she had to get off the train.

Recently, I got another earful about the urge to go to Iraq. Tuning in to one of the Pinoy radio programs which air weekly in Hongkong, I heard a sanctimonious man declaming long-windedly on hope and faith and the Almighty, punctuating his oration with "*Puri-in ang Diyos!*" (Praise the Lord). Women's voices in the background piously chimed in with "Hallelujiah!" and "Amen!" It turned out to be "Brother Mike" Velarde of El Shaddai fame. After the sermon, he invited his audience to make their requests.

One woman, who said she was from Laoag, asked for prayers so she could get a visa at the US Embassy to apply for a job in Iraq. She said she'd heard of jobs for *labanderas* and waitresses at the US bases. At which Brother Mike gave a smarmy chuckle and asked if she wasn't scared of getting bombed. She giggled, saying she was sure his prayers would protect her if she had the "*suerte*" (luck) to go.

Brother Mike then informed his audience he had recently gone to the embassy himself to apply for US visas for his grandkids. "After I got them, everyone else who applied after me had their visa applications granted. So maybe I should go there everyday to help all those applicants!"

Other women had their own special requests—one said she didn't know what to do about her tomboy daughter who had scandalized their neighborhood by living openly with a woman. Brother Mike advised her to be patient and pray because, he assured her unctuously, the daughter would soon realize the error of her ways. Mollified by his words, she thanked him profusely.

Mike Velarde's advice

Then a woman from Batangas who said she was strapped for cash, offered her land, all 25 hectares planted to coconut and lanzones trees. Brother Mike advised her to leave her telephone number, joshing that if she made a sale, he wanted a 20 percent commission.

After the request portion, the El Shaddai song was played. A lively tune with a strong Latin beat, some of the lyrics went: "El Shaddai! El Shaddai! *Mahirap, mayaman, pantay-pantay*! (poor, rich, all equal) Hallelujiah!"

The program, taped in Manila, has been airing weekly in the territory for the past two years, according to the Filipino station director of Hongkong's Metro Radio. It's aimed mainly at the many El Shaddai members in the territory. The other sect, Jesus is Lord (known as JIL by its members), claims to have a larger following. Apparently they too had wanted to have their own radio program; but after their head, "Brother Eddie" Villanueva, joined the presidential race two years ago, the idea for a JIL radio program somehow was dropped.

Fatalism

Hongkong also has two major Pinoy newspapers. One recently carried an ad for "Holy Olive Oil from Jerusalem" which urged: "Bring your prayer request in the hands of men of God who will pray strong on your behalf!" (sic) The oil purportedly heals "pain, depression and nightmares," and also helps with "unstable relationships, low self-esteem, abuse, inability to function, never-ending debts, blocked love life, hating & being hated and wanting to die."

As in the home country where religion plays a big part among the disenfranchised masses, it becomes a stronger force abroad for the migrant workers who feel alienated and oppressed. Any form of solace amid all the hardship makes life more bearable.

The fatalism that produces the urge to gamble with one's life in such hell-holes as Iraq typifies the Filipino trait of self sacrifice. This is particularly true among the women, thousands of whom have left home to work in often appalling conditions so as to support their families. It's such a familiar story, it has become a sad cliché.

GALSIM (right) fights homesickness by going out with fellow Filipinos in the desert separating Dubai and Oman. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

What a travel consultant in Dubai misses in Manila

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

TRAVEL CONSULTANT DENY Lou Galsim, 23, spent her first weekend in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, at home. That freaked her out.

For someone who used to hang out with friends and co-workers almost every night in party places in Manila, that day, though spent in a posh village outside Dubai's city center, she knew she would miss home.

She would miss the Araneta Center in Cubao, Quezon City, where she met her grade school classmates every other week, reminiscing over a cup of coffee or tea.

She would miss Makati City's restaurants where she would chat with co-workers over bottles of San Mig Lite until dawn.

Dubai has bars and restaurants, of course.

But, unlike her rented house in Cubao, which was within walking distance of the Araneta Center, the village where she now lives with four other Filipinos is about an hour away from Deira, the city center, about the time it takes from Bulacan to Makati.

No beer here

She misses the chats while drinking beer. In Dubai, alcoholic drinks are not easy to get. Supermarkets and convenience stores do not sell beer and wine.

"Buyers need a license to purchase from a liquor store. And getting a license is a very tedious process," Galsim says, as she shares her new experiences through regular e-mail in an easy mix of English and Filipino.

Her parents need not worry, she does not plan to get one.

Besides, liquor is very costly in Dubai. A pitcher of beer in a restaurant is about 75 Dirhams or P1,000.

Galsim, a native of Tayug, Pangasinan, has been working for a travel agency in Dubai for about two months.

She worked for a hotel after finishing a tourism course at the University of the Philippines-Diliman in 2003. After four months, she transferred to a travel agency, where she worked for more than two years.

Then a former boss invited her to apply for a job in Dubai and was accepted after only 15 days of waiting.

"I really thought hard about this. I realized that this opportunity was once in a lifetime. So I grabbed it," she says.

Conservative country

She was scared at first about moving to a country that seemed "strict and conservative." She heard of a Filipino woman who had a miscarriage and was sent to jail after authorities found out she was unmarried.

But she found out, "This is a very open city, a melting pot of various races. Girls here wear spaghetti-strapped blouses, tubes, halters, minis. Some even don't wear bras."

She misses her favorite soap operas, though, no matter how cheesy their plots were. Their television set does not have ABS-CBN's The Filipino Channel or GMA's Pinoy TV.

She also misses her old routine (house-work-gimmick-house) which she has traded for a shorter, though more boring, one (house-work-house).

To ease her boredom, she goes to a mall occasionally or just stays home for karaoke singing with her friends (great thing one of them brought his Magic Sing microphone).

But still a party girl at heart, she went to a bar recently where, instead of the yuppies and foreigners of Greenbelt, she saw Filipino overseas workers. The waiters and cooks were also all Filipinos.

Seeing Sam

In the bar, she saw TV personality Sam Milby of the Pinoy Big Brother fame, a show she also misses very much.

"This is funny. I had to be in Dubai to finally meet him in person," she said in her most recent e-mail.

But restaurant food in Dubai is expensive. Fortunately, one of her friends is a good cook so Galsim and her friends still get to enjoy *sinigang*, *monggo* and beef steak in their villa.

"There are movie houses in some malls but most films are shown here later that in other countries. Ticket prices are also steep. I think its 55 Dirhams each (P770)," she says.

"People here are more into beaches, I guess, especially on Thursday evenings, because the rest day here is Friday," she adds.

But she would rather stay in their air-conditioned three-bedroom house provided by the company. The temperature outside rises to about 40-45 degrees Celsius at noon.

"The water is also very hot. You don't need a heater here; you need a cooler," she says.

Galsim, as she wrote in her high school year book, originally wanted to be an engineer. She changed her plan after failing in a Mathematics subject in UP.

She did not dream of working abroad. "I used to dream of traveling abroad, but never of working in a foreign country," she says.

Keeping Friendster

One thing she does not miss is her old salary. She now gets three times her old rate. And yes, she says, that is tax-free.

"I realize that at my age and with my knowledge, I would not earn this much in Manila. Here, I also get to learn more about different cultures," Galsim says.

"I am having fun," she adds.

Her workload is also much lighter. She is able to respond to e-mail from friends in less than an hour and also keeps her Friendster account updated.

"What I like here is I get to decide for myself, both in my personal life and in my work. We even call our bosses by their first names," she says.

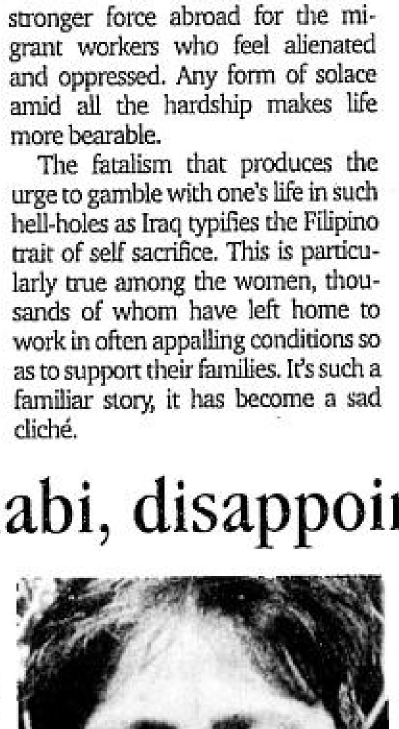
Though she misses loved ones and friends, she says she is closer to realizing her dreams.

"Perhaps if we have a better economy, a more stable political system, and more jobs with good pay, maybe I would have stayed," she says.

So, in the meantime, she and her friends will just have to endure missing home, San Mig Lite, Araneta and Greenbelt.

After Abu Dhabi, disappointed couple now off to US

By Trina A. Lagura
Contributor



FERNANDEZ: Home again, gone tomorrow. JESS YUSON

AMOR FERNANDEZ LEFT SCHOOL for economic reasons at 21 to try his luck in Abu Dhabi.

The now 46-year-old former overseas worker says his 16-year stay in the capital of the United Arab Emirates was relatively easy.

Working for the city's Water and Electricity Department (ADWED) as a contract analyst, he met the woman of his dreams, Marilyn, a nurse. They lived in a flat provided by the government, had a car and ran a modest but successful business.

Homesickness was never a problem and he did not have to suffer maltreatment because he fought back. As for discrimination, he says, "It (discrimination) happens not only to us (Filipinos)."

Aside from the heat, the Fernandezes' main concern was finding a nanny for the children when they went to work.

The first three of the Fernandezes' four children—Andre John, 18; Angela Mae, 16; and Agatha Marie, 10—were born there. They had the fourth, Matt Aries, 8, when they came home.

Government employee

Fernandez went to UAE in 1981, before he could finish his mechanical engineering course at Feati University. He was then helping in the construction business of his family.

Eager to be independent, he grabbed the opportunity to work abroad, earning more than $200 a month for taking charge of the food and beverage department of a posh hotel owned by Sheikh Suroor bin Mohammed Al Nahyan.

Just months after his arrival, Al Nahyan handpicked him and five other people to join the sheikh's personal staff. He was one of two Filipinos chosen.

"I was then the first Filipino to work in the Abu Dhabi government. Now there are around 200 Filipinos," he says.

He says government employees in Abu Dhabi are taken care of and properly compensated. After the first three years of service of an employee, he will be entitled to one year bonus and other benefits.

In 1988, with a $25,000 capital, he and his Filipino partner, a friend of his wife's, set up a barber salon. They had to get an Arab partner as the law required, Fernandez says.

Patriot

Despite his 16 years abroad, Fernandez's love for his country did not wane. In his home in Abu Dhabi, he and Marilyn spoke to the children in Filipino. He stressed to them they were still Filipinos at heart even if they were away from the country.

A former student activist who participated in street protests against the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos, Fernandez also got involved with a group in Abu Dhabi helping other Filipinos. He says the Filipino Cultural, Health and Sports Club (FCHS) does not only organize get-togethers but also assists "homeless, orphaned, widowed, aged and distressed Filipinos."

Home again

In 1997, the Fernandezes decided to come home, encouraged by the booming economy under President Fidel V. Ramos.

Except for the traffic, he says, it was not hard for them to adjust. Though he missed the life of luxury in Abu Dhabi, he says there is no place like home.

The Fernandezes bought in 2000 a half-hectare land in Rosario, Batangas to start a piggery. Though neither of them is from Batangas, Fernandez says the place is ideal for such a venture. He trained for one week in Lipa to prepare for his new venture.

But now they have decided to migrate to the United States.

Disappointed

He says they came back full of hope that life would be better here, but have become disillusioned.

"I am very, very disappointed with our government. Life here is uncertain and without direction ... My wife and I (may be) fine, but how about our children?" he asks.

He complains about corruption and how the poor are getting poorer.

He laments that the administration has no program and does not support returning Filipinos who "have money but don't know where to put it."

But despite his disappointments, Fernandez says he still plans to return to the country maybe five to 10 years from now, hoping the country will be better then. He also hopes to return every six months for a vacation.

He says he is not giving up their farm and houses, as they will provide them income when they come home.

Guess who . . .

From page A19

"The Mansion House was unique as the only purpose built home of the Lord Mayor of the City of London," the embassy said.

Taguiang became a favorite of Lord Mayors, the embassy added.

In 1998, Taguiang was granted the distinct honor of becoming a Freeman of the City of London by act of the Lord Mayor and the Court of Common Council.

Her job is difficult and involves long hours, but Taguiang said: "After working for some time, it becomes a pleasure; it becomes a passion to serve. I love coming to the Mansion House because the people are very nice."

While considering herself as a loyal subject of the Queen, Taguiang still makes time for her fellow Filipinos visiting England by organizing tours for them.

The House . . .

From page A19

her hometown, Talon-Talon, Zamboanga, and marry her sweetheart Barry, who fronts a local band.

"With the money that I can save abroad, I am hoping I can stay here permanently when I return and finally start a rice retailing business. Going abroad is the only chance I have of pursuing my dreams of a better life," says Jamaica.

Normida also says this next trip may be her last. She first left in 2000 to work in Kuwait. In 2003, she went to Dubai.

Grin and bear it

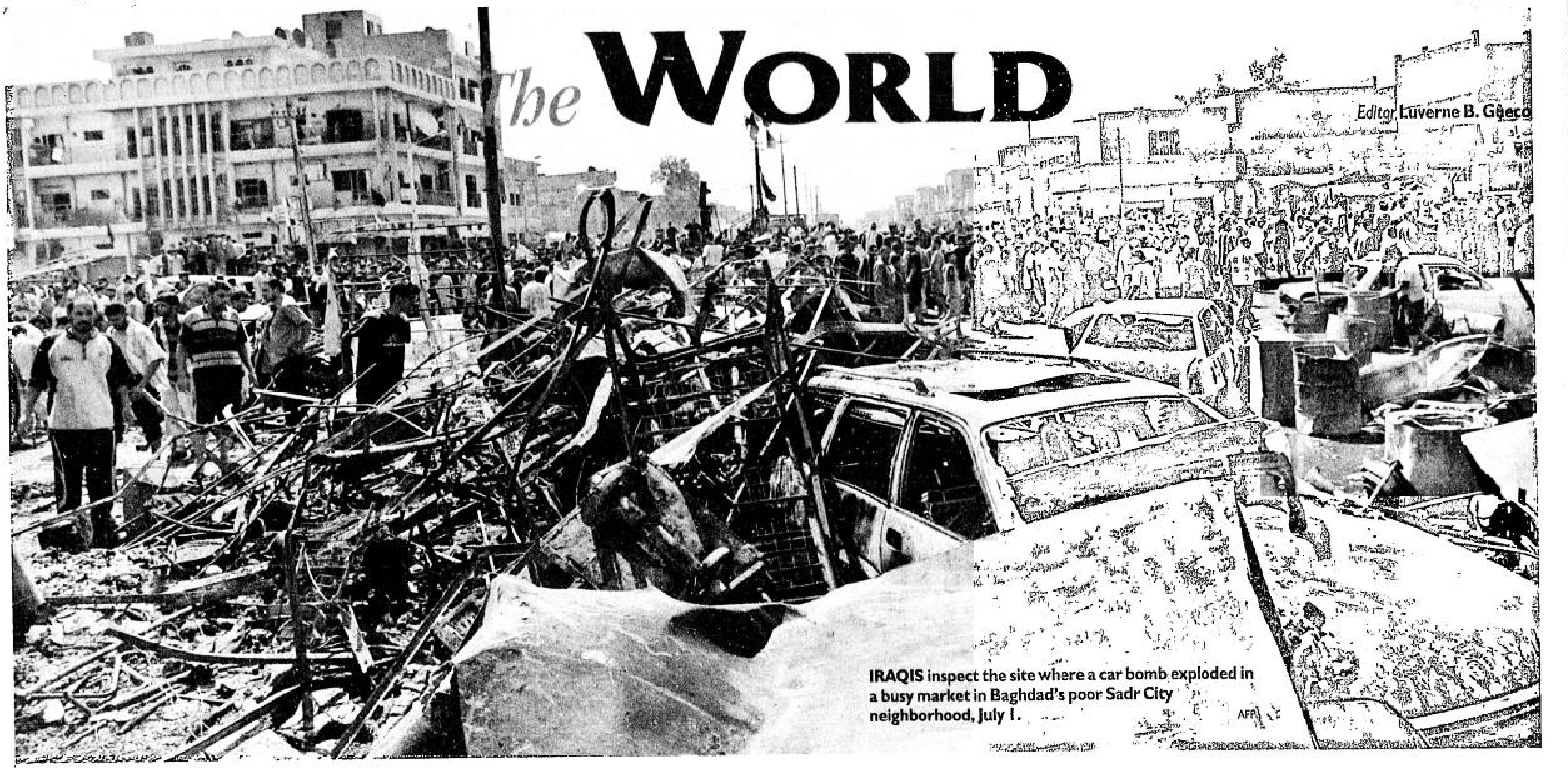
"I really have to work abroad to provide for my family. Nangi, my husband, is just a factory worker and we can't rely only on his meager salary to support our two children," Normida says.

When asked what it felt to leave her family behind, Normida briefly looked up to the sky as if she was trying to remember and answers, "This is already my third trip and my Jason and Julkia (her children, 10 and 8, respectively) are beginning to understand. It was really hard for them the first time but they are good and resilient kids. As for me, I just have to grin and bear it. This won't last forever. This is going to be my last contract," she says.

When she finishes this contract, Normida plans to stay home with her family and open a small store in her town. *With reports from Luigi B. Coliflores*

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Greco



IRAQIS inspect the site where a car bomb exploded in a busy market in Baghdad's poor Sadr City neighborhood, July 1. AFP

A DAY AFTER BIN LADEN WARNING

Baghdad market car bombing kills 60

BAGHDAD—AT LEAST 60 PEOPLE WERE KILLED and 76 wounded Saturday when a car bomb struck the Baghdad Shiite district of Sadr City, ripping through a massive security crackdown in the Iraqi capital.

A Sunni woman MP was also kidnapped in north Baghdad along with eight of her bodyguards, a day after al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden vowed the war would go on despite a peace plan launched by Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki.

The vast Shiite neighborhood of Sadr City, a stronghold of militiamen loyal to Shiite radical leader Moqtada Sadr, has been a repeated target for Sunni Arab insurgents amid mounting sectarian violence.

The massive car bomb went off as a police patrol passed through the district's Al-Ula market, which was packed with morning shoppers, an interior ministry official said.

Witnesses said the bomb was concealed in a pick-up truck loaded with vegetables and that the driver blew himself up.

The force of the blast torched nearby market stalls and around 20 vehicles, an AFP photographer witnessed.

Fearful residents were seen desperately searching through the mangled wreckage for missing loved ones.

In a separate roadside bombing in southeast Baghdad, another three people were killed, officials said. Four bodies were also found around the city.

Taiseer Najeh Awad al-Mashhadani, an MP for the National Concord Front, the largest Sunni Arab bloc in the Iraqi parliament, was seized in north Baghdad as she returned to the capital from the restive province of Diyala to the northeast, a political source said.

Her abduction came after the Shiite prime minister launched a national reconciliation plan aimed at wooing members of the disenchanted former elite away from the protracted insurgency and back into the political process.

The violence was a reminder of the precarious security situation in the capital despite a massive security clampdown that has seen tens of thousands of US and government troops patrolling the streets for the past few weeks.

Government figures for June recorded at least 1,009 Iraqi dead in insurgent attacks, only slightly down on the 1,055 killed around Iraq in May.

The prime minister's reconciliation plan includes proposals for an amnesty for at least some suspected rebels in a bid to stem the insurgency and mounting sectarian violence, and Maliki was due to begin a Gulf tour in oil-rich Saudi Arabia later Saturday to seek regional support for the proposals.

But in a new audio-tape released Friday, the al-Qaida leader vowed that the militant network's war in Iraq would go on despite the death in a US air raid last month of its Iraq frontman Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. *AFP*

US soldiers linked to Iraq rape-murder

BEIJI, IRAQ—INVESTIGATORS believe the US soldiers suspected of raping an Iraqi woman, then killing her and members of her family plotted the attack for nearly a week, a US military official said Saturday.

The official, who is close to the investigation, said that flammable liquid was used to burn the woman's body in a cover-up attempt, although it was not clear if it was gasoline or lighter fluid.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing, said it appeared the attack was "totally premeditated" and that the soldiers "studied them for about a week."

According to the official, the Sunni Arab family had just moved into a new home in the insurgent-riddled area around Mahmoudiya, south of Baghdad. The Americans entered the home, separated three males from the woman, then raped her and set fire to her body, the official said. The three males were also slain.

US officials said they knew of the deaths but thought the victims died due to sectarian violence. But Mahmoudiya police Capt. Ihsan Abdul-Rahman said Iraqi officials received a report March 13 alleging that American soldiers had killed the family. The incident occurred in the Khasir Abyad area, about 9 km north of Mahmoudiya, he said.

There were some discrepancies over how many soldiers were being investigated. The US official said it was at least four. Two other US officials said Friday that five were under investigation but one already had been discharged for unspecified charges unrelated to the killings and was believed to be in the United States.

In Baghdad, the US military issued a terse statement Friday, saying only that Maj. Gen. James D. Thurman, commander of the 4th Infantry Division, ordered a criminal investigation into the alleged slaying of a family of four in Mahmoudiya, 30 km south of Baghdad. *AP*

Ex-Mexico president charged in '68 massacre

MEXICO CITY—JUST TWO DAYS before a tight national election, a judge has ordered the arrest of former President Luis Echeverria on genocide charges in connection with his role during the massacre of student protesters here in 1968, overturning a lower court ruling.

The arrest of Echeverria, who is 84 and in poor health, came after two failed attempts by a special prosecutor to charge him with the deaths and disappearances of dozens of students and leftist dissidents in the late 1960s and early 1970s, a period known here as the dirty war.

The ruling was a major victory for President Vicente Fox, who staked much of his political legacy on holding government officials legally responsible for past atrocities rather than forming a truth commission that had no legal teeth.

Fox's inability thus far to obtain any convictions in connection with the massacres has been widely seen as a major failure. So the arrest of Echeverria is likely to boost the chances of Felipe Calderon, the presidential candidate of Fox's National Action Party, at the polls on Sunday.

But the special prosecutor, Ignacio Carrillo Prieto, denied that the judge's decision had anything to do with politics. The timing was a coincidence, he said.

Having been hospitalized in recent months with lung ailments, Echeverria was placed under house arrest at his residence in the San Jeronimo neighborhood in the south of the capital while the court decides his guilt or innocence. Federal agents were dispatched to watch him, Carrillo Prieto said.

Echeverria was president from 1970 to 1976 at the height of Mexico's crackdown on leftists, in which more than 500 dissidents disappeared.

Before that he was the interior minister, in charge of national security, when troops opened fire at a student rally in Mexico City on Oct. 2, 1968, just before the Olympics opened here. The government has always claimed that only 30 people died in that massacre, at the Tlatelolco housing complex, but witnesses and human rights advocates say as many as 300 were actually killed.

Echeverria has always denied any responsibility for the massacre. *NYT*

ECHEVERRIA in a 1994 photo. AP

Only 30-40 'real' cases seen in Gitmo

WASHINGTON—THE GUANTANAMO camp may have only 30 to 40 "real" cases and the US detention center should be shut down by 2007, the president of the Belgian Senate, who headed a European inspection team there, said Friday.

Presenting her findings in Washington on behalf of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Anne-Marie Lizi recommended the shutting down of the US "war on terror" detention center by end of 2007 because the actual number of dangerous detainees was low.

"We have looked at all the categories of detainees: those who are supposed to be transferred, those who are valuable for procedure," Lizi told reporters.

"The number of those, when you discuss it with the people in this jail, could move from 70 to a little more than 100 but not more. And in some cases, people say we could have only 30 to 40 real valuable cases," she said.

Her report says Guantanamo now has some 460 detainees.

The Supreme Court issued a landmark ruling Thursday against the US use of military tribunals for Guantanamo Bay detainees, but the verdict did not touch the detention center's future. *AFP*

Vatican official seeks excommunication for researchers using human embryos

ROME—SCIENTISTS WHO ENGAGE in stem cell research using human embryos should be subject to excommunication from the Roman Catholic Church, according to a senior Vatican official.

Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, who heads the group that proposes family-related policy for the Church, said in an interview with the Catholic weekly Famiglia Cristiana published Thursday that stem cell researchers should be punished in the same way as women who have abortions and doctors who perform them.

"Destroying an embryo is equivalent to abortion," said the cardinal. "Excommunication is valid for the women, the doctors and researchers who destroy embryos."

It was unclear if the Pope supported the position, and the Vatican did not return calls for comment. But such blunt remarks from a powerful cardinal just a week before the Church convenes a meeting to discuss the topic could foreshadow a hardening of Vatican policy on the issue, experts said.

On Saturday, Trujillo will open the Church's fifth World Meeting of Families in Valencia, Spain, and Pope Benedict XVI will attend July 9, the closing day. As head of the Pontifical Council for the Family, it will be up to Trujillo to propose new Church policies, though adopting any such measure could require a long and complicated process.

The Church has long opposed embryonic stem cell research, and has campaigned against any medical procedure or research technique that harms human embryos or fetuses.

But the threat of individual excommunication—the most serious punishment meted out by the Church—was previously directed at women and medical personnel who participated in abortions. Trujillo's stand would broaden the use of that sanction to biomedical researchers who use embryos. *NYT*

HASHIMOTO; 68
Former Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto at a kendo demonstration in this Sept. 20, 1998 photo. Hashimoto died July 1 at a Tokyo hospital. He was 68. Hashimoto had been in critical condition after suffering abdominal pain and undergoing surgery in early June. AP

UN: Globalization has failed to bridge gap

GENEVA—THE UNITED NATIONS said in a report on Friday that globalization has failed to narrow the glaring inequalities between rich and poor nations and called for developing countries to be given more space to build up their national economies.

The UN's "2006 World Economic and Social Survey" said that—once China and India were excluded from the calculation—inequalities between countries around the world had grown sharply in recent decades. Fast-growing China and India account between them for one third of the world's population.

The report said this development was "at odds with the conventional economic wisdom regarding how income differentials among countries change over time in a more integrated world economy."

Only a small number of nations had been able to narrow the chasm that separated them from wealthy economies despite a belief in the 1980s and 1990s that "giving more space to the global market would lead to a closing of the income gap", it added.

"This did not happen ... despite the fact that countries across the globe had opened up their trade and financial systems to the global market," observed the report by the UN's department of economic and social affairs.

It argued that poorer countries needed to be given more opportunity to diversify their commodity-based economies to make them less vulnerable to fluctuations in world prices and shocks in international financial markets.

They should be able to follow the example set by dynamic Asian economies by shifting towards high-tech industrial production and services, it argued.

"Success in exports is basically associated with what you export not how much you export," UN Under Secretary General Jose Antonio Ocampo told journalists in Geneva. *AFP*

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WHAT'S INSIDE

Federer's road to final opens up /A27

Sunday SPORTS

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Bata banners RP team in Las Vegas 8-Ball /A25

Stiff ticket prices turn off fans

By Gil Cabacungan

TICKET PRICES OUT OF REACH of the common Filipinos have deterred rabid fans of boxer Manny Pacquiao from trooping in droves to the 18,000-seater Araneta Coliseum when he fights Mexican Oscar Larios today.

Entertainment giant ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. was mum on reports that the highly touted Pacquiao-Larios fight it had been promoting heavily in the past few months would be far from the sell-out the station's bigwigs had envisioned shortly after the Filipino boxing idol's blockbuster fight versus Eric Morales six months ago.

That Las Vegas fight was sold out and ABS-CBN's telecast of the fight was the most watched in local television history.

At press time yesterday, only the ringside seats (going for P47,000 each) and the bleachers or general admission (P528 each) were close to being sold out with still plenty of seats in the patron (P31,680), lower box (P31,120), and upper box (P7,920 for level "A" and P2,640 for level "B") sections still being peddled by Ticketnet.

ABS-CBN had put on sale 17,000 tickets with the rest reserved for VIP's and corporate sponsors.

"Sales have been so-so. Normally, this kind of event would have sold out a few weeks ago," said one Ticketnet employee, who noted that the ringside seats were the most expensive as far as she could remember.

The Ticketnet employee also said they expect scalpers to make a killing yesterday as some tickets were being offered at less than half their face value.

ABS-CBN, which was solely responsible for the pricing of the tickets, had based the prices on the sales of the World Wrestling Entertainment, which packed the historic coliseum to the rafters with Filipinos crazy about the professional wrestlers.

Apparently, Filipinos found the price too stiff (the bleachers' ticket is nearly twice the minimum wage).

In an e-mail response to the INQUIRER, ABS-CBN vice president for corporate affairs and public relations Maloli K. Espinos said: "We are on track as far as the revenue streams for Mano-A-Mano are concerned. The advertising revenues are par for the course. There is no clear picture yet of the pay-per-view revenues, but indications are good. The pay-per-view on the Internet broadband is also quite encouraging. We also expect to earn from regional placements and ticket sales at Araneta Coliseum."

Malacañang is expecting nothing less than a victory from Pacquiao for the alternative will be utter humiliation, personally and financially, for the millionaire boxer.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said it would be "the height of embarrassment" if Pacquiao, a 7-1 favorite in the 12-round match, would lose in his home country.

"I think he has no choice but to win if he wants to continue to be the idol of the people. It will also be a shame if he loses considering that his brother, Bobby Pacquiao, just won," said Ermita in a briefing with reporters.

(Bobby Pacquiao won by TKO in the fourth round over American Kevin Kelley in his defense of the WBC Continental Americas super featherweight title at the Madison Square Garden in New York last June 11.)

Ermita said there was more pressure on Pacquiao to perform well than his previous bouts because "he is widely considered as a symbol of the Filipino people."

Ermita, who claimed to have dabbled in boxing in his youth, said that if Pacquiao's coach, Freddie Roach, predicted that Larios would be knocked out in six rounds, "he should do it in three."

PACQUIAO

Abap head sees Larios going down in 5 rounds

By Norman Bordadora

PEOPLE'S CHAMP MANNY PACQUIAO will knock out Oscar Larios in less than five rounds.

"He will win inside five rounds," said Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines president Manny Lopez of Pacquiao's chances against the Mexican pugilist in their 12-round fight at the Araneta Coliseum today.

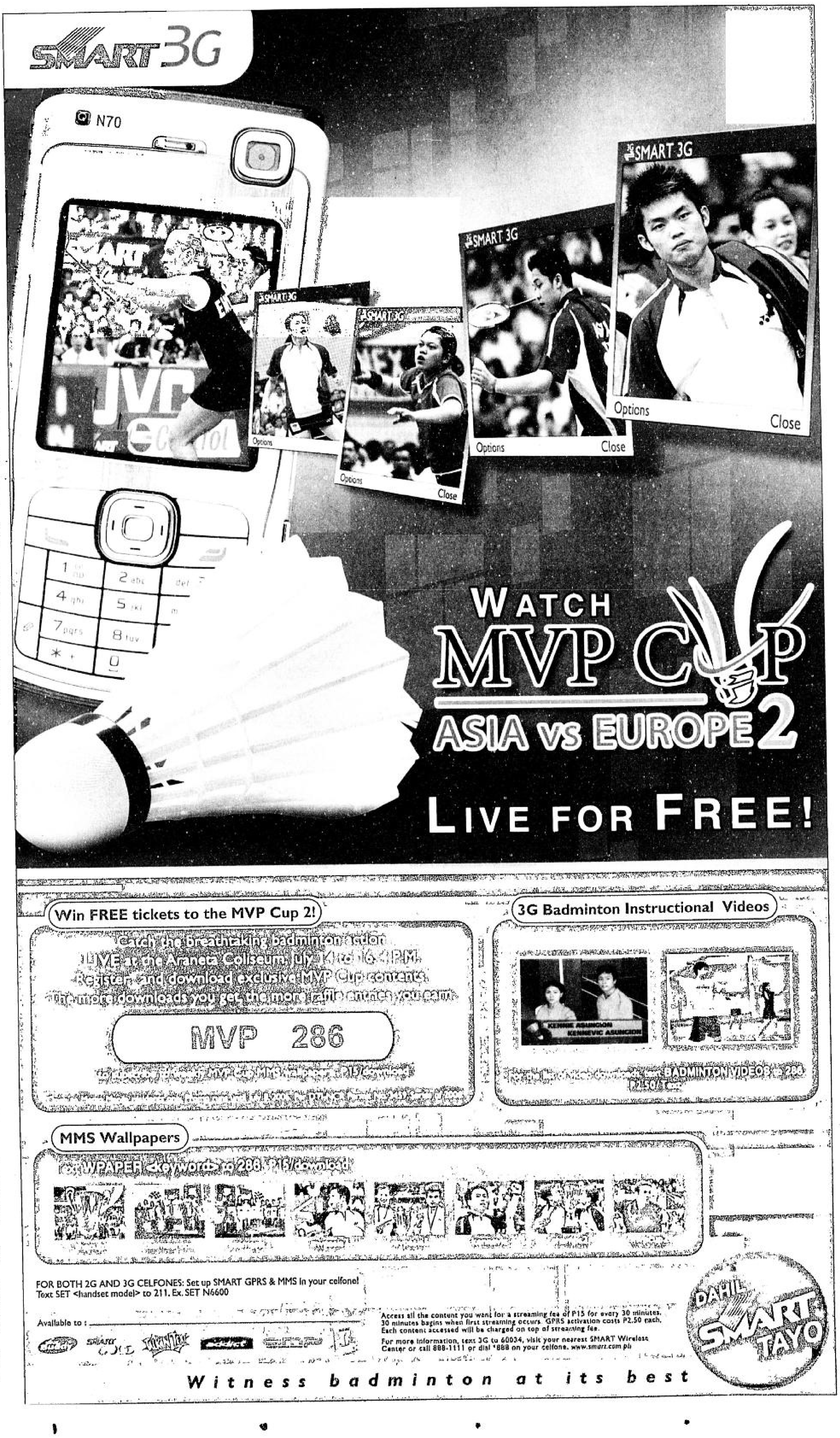
LOPEZ

Speaking during the weekly Kapihan sa Sulo news forum in Quezon City, Lopez said Larios will also have to deal with the huge pro-Pacquiao crowd and the fact that he had to gain eight pounds to move up to Pacquiao's super featherweight division.

Larios, who last fought as a super bantamweight (122 lbs), came in at 129 at yesterday's weigh-in.

Lopez noted that Larios has a "glass jaw" and has just recovered from a third round knockout at the hands of fellow Mexican Israel Vasquez in December 2005.

Lopez said oddsmakers in Las Vegas have installed Pacquiao an 8-1 favorite to beat the Mexican boxer. *Norman Bordadora*



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Witness badminton at its best

NBC semis: Spring Oil tackles Pagadian July 6

SPRING COOKING OIL-PARANAQUE props up its bid for the NBC title which has eluded it for three years now when it meets expansion team Pagadian in a best-of-three semifinal series in the 2006 Guerrero Brandy-NBC national basketball championship on July 6 at the Tagaytay International Convention Center.

The Cooking Oil Maters of NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and Vice Mayor Anjo Yllana think this is the best time to strike, but they must first hurdle the tough Explorers of Mayor Sammy Co.

Fresh from winning the 4th Bahrain-Philippines Goodwill Games, Spring-Paranaque hopes to start big behind veterans Martin Ortiguera, Larry Rodriguez, Danny Capobres, Marvin Yambao, Mar Reyes and playmaker Aldrin Morante.

"The boys are hungry to win (an NBC) title," said Spring-Paranaque coach Efren "Yong" Garcia.

The Cooking Oil Masters swept Pangasinan, 2-0, in their first playoff outing in the tourney sponsored by Panasonic, Sulpicio Lines, Nature's Spring, Mineral Water, Spring Cooking Oil, Regent Foods, Firefly Lightings, Molten and Prime Channel.

But Pagadian could prove tough to handle. Coached by Segundo "Bong" de la Cruz who steered FEI-Cavite to a second-place finish last year, the Explorers are bannered by ex-pros Bong Marata, Peter Naron and Michael Orquillas and PBL veteran Lou Gatumbato.

"I have a high respect for Spring's players," said Dela Cruz. "But my team has all the tools to overcome them. I expect a total war in this series." said Dela Cruz.

The second and third game, if necessary, will be played in Pagadian City.

Reigning titlist Ozamis Cotta and Batang Tagaytay are clashing in the other semifinal series, also on July 6, in Tagaytay City.

Coach E gets rolling in 3 sites July 25

ALTAMIRANO

COACH E BASketball school opens the new school year with its new venue in San Beda-Alabang offering a full 16-session schedule starting July 25.

Classes at The Zone in Makati and clubsixfifty are set on July 26 and July 28, respectively.

The International Basketball Association (IBA) was impressed by the turnout of students from areas in the South last May that it decided to make San Beda Alabang a regular Coach E satellite while sessions will be offered soon in Xavier School in San Juan. For inquiries, call 631-1195 (Mylene), from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. or visit iba_phil@yahoo.com and www.ibaphil.net.

IBA president Xavy Nunag also announced that PBA champion coach Eric Altamirano will hold a coaching clinic at the San Beda Alabang on July 15. Fee is P100.

Ten successful students from the coaching clinic will be invited to join the teaching staff of the Coach Basketball School backed by Viva Mineral Water, Powerade, Burlington, Accel and Brothers Burger.

San Beda-Alabang classes are set every Tuesday (5:30-7:30 p.m.) and Saturdays (10 a.m.-noon). Regular classes in clubsixfifty are Fridays (5-7 p.m.) and Saturdays (10 a.m. to noon) while those at The Zone are Wednesdays (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.) and Saturdays (10 a.m. to noon).

Pacman fight live via 3G

SMART SUBSCRIBERS USING 3G HANDsets may watch the Manny Pacquiao-Oscar Larios fight for the World Boxing Council International Super Featherweight today through Smart 3G's Live TV in real time.

"While most people watch the Pacquaio-Larios fight via their television sets, Smart is making this live mobile broadcast available as an added service to our subscribers through Smart 3G," said Manny Perez, marketing head for usage, Smart Communications, Inc.. "This will come in handy for people who will be on the go this Sunday."

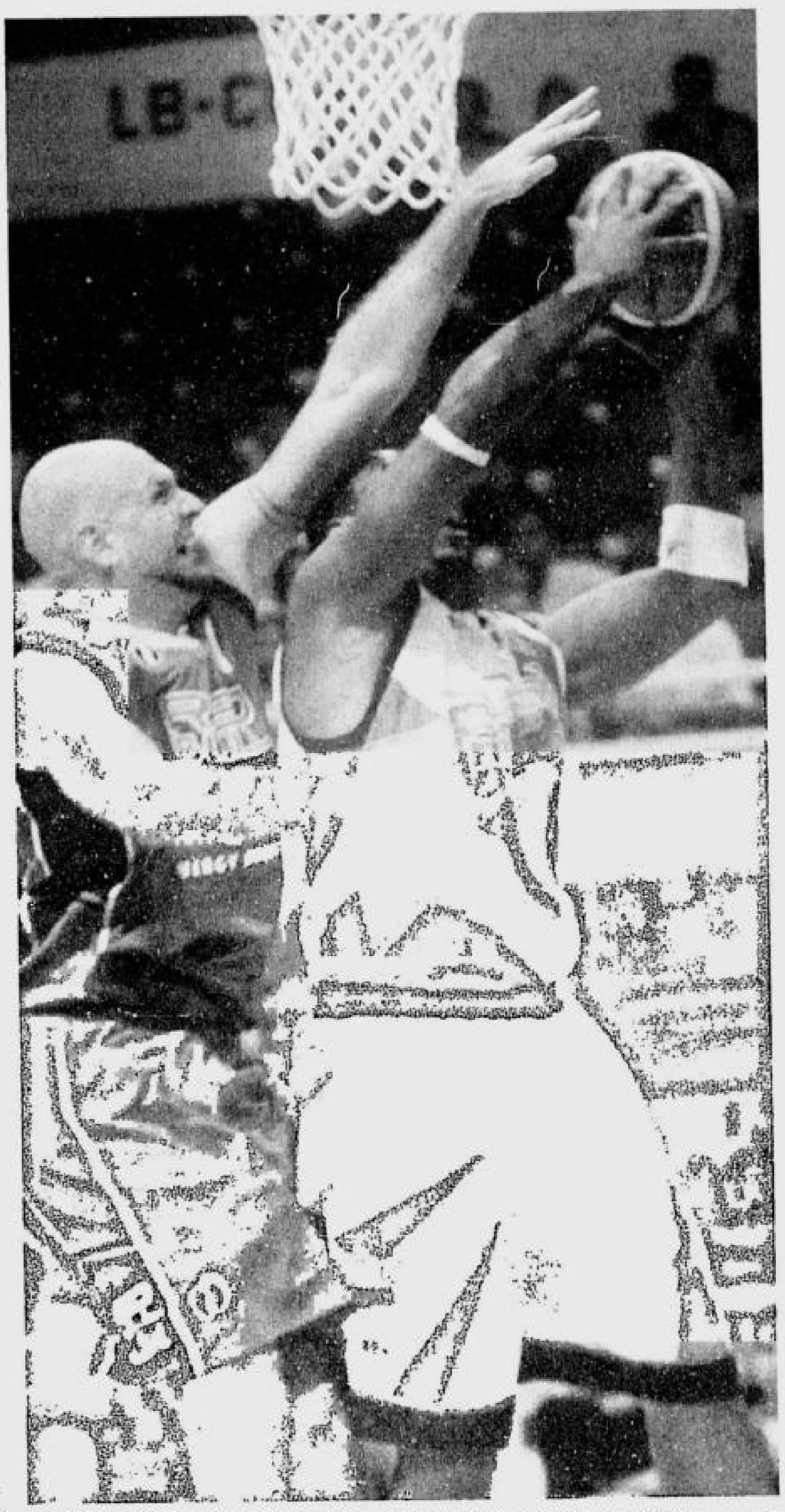
For the Pacquiao-Larios fight, subscribers can watch for an affordable streaming fee of P15 per 30 minute plus P20 daily access charge to the television network.

"What's amazing is what you will see on television will be the same telecast as what you will see on your cell phones. It will be real time, too," Perez added.

To access the live mobile broadcast of the Pacquiao-Larios fight, Smart subscribers must set to 3G mode. Then, go to the phone Menu, choose the Web, and go to the Smart 3G WAP site. After connecting to the server and agreeing on the terms, just click on Mobile TV then click on the Mano A Mano Live link.

For a short cut, subscribers can also access the Mano A Mano link via texting, just text in MANOLIVE and send to 2366. You will receive a text message containing the URL or link to the Mano A Mano Live streaming feed. Just click on this link to get connected.

Smart 3G's Live TV is available to all Smart subscribers with 3G handsets and 3G activated SIMs. With 1000 3G base stations nationwide, Smart offers the widest third generation network coverage in the country.


MICK Pennisi of Red Bull tries to stop Dorian Peña of San Miguel Beer. PDI
PHOTO/ERIK ARAZAS

Game 7 seals PBA semifinal tussles today

By June Navarro

GAMES TODAY
(Cuneta Astrodome)
4:10 p.m.--Alaska vs Purefoods
6:35 p.m.--San Miguel Beer vs Red Bull

Game 1-Alaska d. Purefoods, 94-92; Red Bull d. San Miguel, 89-78; Game 2-Alaska d. Purefoods, 86-77; San Miguel d. Red Bull, 114-98;Game 3-Purefoods d. Alaska, 82-79; Red Bull d. San Miguel, 99-95;Game 4-Alaska d. Purefoods, 91-77; San Miguel d. Red Bull, 106-82; Game 5-Purefoods d. Alaska, 85-74; Red Bull d. San Miguel, 107-101; Game 6-Purefoods d. Alaska, 99-96; San Miguel d. Red Bull, 116-101

STATISTICS, HISTORY AND mental edge no longer matter. Now it's just pure heart and desire.

The semifinals of the PBA Philippine Cup ends with this kind of atmosphere as four teams fight for a Finals seat in a deciding Game 7 today at the Cuneta Astrodome.

Alaska and Purefoods tangle in the 4:10 p.m. curtain-raiser before San Miguel Beer takes on Red Bull at 6:35 in do-or-die matches that will decide who qualifies for the best-of-seven championship showdown.

"The only significant thing (after tying the series) was Eugene Tejada's number (33)," said Purefoods coach Ryan Gregorio after the Giants forced the decider with a 99-96 win in Game 6 Friday.

"It's just three and three. Now, we're going for four and three."

Gregorio and the Giants hope to turn Tejada's misfortune into a driving force to pull off another come-from-behind victory over the Aces.

Tejada has been cheering his teammates from his hospital bed since a nasty fall against Red Bull in the classification phase rendered him immobile from the neck down.

Kerby Raymundo and James Yap are again expected to deliver the way they did in Game 6. Expectations are also high that Noy Castillo, Marc Pingris, Roger Yap and Rey Evangelista would also shine.

"I like the character of this team. It's nice to have players who have the desire to win even when their backs are against the wall," said Gregorio.

The Aces, on the other hand, try to bounce back from the ignominy of squandering an 11-point lead in the closing minutes of Game 6.

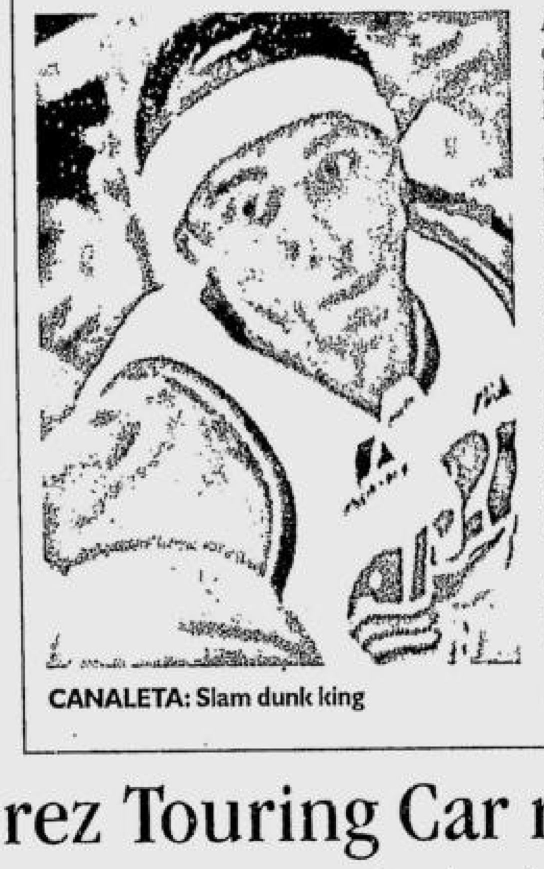
Cone and his Aces are also in danger of absorbing another embarrassing loss from the Giants, who captured the 2002 Governors Cup title after Alaska took a 2-0 lead early in the title series.

Going by best-of-seven records, Red Bull is heavily favored over San Miguel.

The Bulls had already beaten the Beermen twice in a best-of-seven affair and they have never lost a Game 7. The Bulls have won all four of their previous best-of-seven series with two of them going the distance.

"There's always a first time and it could happen on Sunday (today)," said San Miguel Beer coach Jong Uichico.

Super Cup: Canaleta, De Ocampos to spearhead Air21-RP dribblers


CANALETA: Slam dunk king

AIR21/FEDEX WILL REPRESENT THE country in the 16th Super Kung Sheung Cup international basketball championship in Hong Kong on July 15-23.

Slam dunk champion' KG Canaleta and brothers Yancy and Ranidel de Ocampo will banner the country's bid to surpass its third-place finish in the last two years.

Ronald Tubid, Wynne Arboleda, Mark Telan, Gary David, Leo Avenido, Homer Se, Stephen Padilla, Bruce Dacia and Ryan Bernardo complete the roster.

"With the huge Filipino community in Hong Kong backing the team, we expect to play well against tough club teams from Asia," said Basketball Association of the Philippines president Joey Lina, who relayed the acceptance of Air 21 to the event organizers.

Last year, the RP-FedEx team powered by Jerry Codiñera finished third behind host Hong Kong and the Los Angeles-based Asian American Sports Club.

The Philippines posted three wins against SEABA champion Malaysia, Thailand and Fukien (China), but dropped its games versus Hong Kong and AASC.

ALVAREZ

LINA

The country bagged the title in the annual tournament in 2002. Romel Adducul, Yancy de Ocampo and Ervin Sotto led that champion squad mentored by Johnny Tam.

FedEx president and PBA governor Lito Alvarez will serve as head of delegation of the RP team, which is also supported by Burlington, Bestank, Federal Tires and Accel.

After winning the title in 2002, the Cebuana Lhuillier-RP team of coach Aric del Rosario and Dong Vergeire took second behind Hong Kong.

LIM

BSAAA honors Graham

THE BOHOL Schools Amateur Athletic Association (BSAAA) will hold the Graham C. Lim Basketball Challenge as a tribute to the Basketball Association of the Philippines secretary general.

Now on its 12th season, the BSAAA is the only inter-school basketball tournament in Tagbilaran City sanctioned by the local chapter of the BAP, which is headed by sportsman Rodolfo Bas Madanguit.

Its member-schools include Bohol Institute of Technology, Holy Spirit School, Central Visayas State College of Arts, Forestry, and Technology, Tagbilaran City Science High School, Bohol Wisdom School, Tagbilaran Acceleration Christian School, St. Theresa School, Grace Christian School, University of Bohol, and Mansasa High School.

Coseteng-Ramirez Touring Car rivalry heats up

KOOKIE Ramirez

ROSARIO, BATANGAS—THE chase for the overall championship in the 2006 San Mig Coffee-Petron Blaze Cup Philippine Touring Car Championships heats up with the third stage to be flagged off today at the Batangas Racing Circuit here.

Kookie Ramirez of Petron Ultron-SRA hopes nothing fails in his car's set up this time as he aims to erase a two-point lead by Jody Coseteng of San Mig Coffee in the event sanctioned by the Automobile Association Philippines.

Coseteng swept the second leg and now has 54 points to lead everyone in the event being sponsored by San Miguel Corporation, Petron, Valvoline, TNT, Yokohama, Rota, Ray Ban, Bendix, Starbright Bodykits, A1 Driving, BRC, SIR, Gadgets, KTC Tools, The Philippine Star, 97.9 Home Radio, 92.3 Joey FM, 99.5 RT and autoindustriya.com.

Ramirez, parading his new Honda EK, got the lead following his sweep in the kickoff leg, but his vehicle setup for the second leg didn't work as well.

"I'm not really thinking much about the rivalry," Ramirez said. "My concern is to win and hope things will work out perfectly in this leg," said Ramirez.

Hoping to get in the way of the looming Coseteng-Ramirez rivalry are Louis Ramirez of Petron Ultron-SRA, Don Pastor of Bioactive Team TEC, privateer Dominic Bon, Dennis Uy of Velocity Motors, Carlos Anton of MP Turbo and Renan Morales of Shift Racing.

Louis Ramirez has been a consistent threat while Pastor, despite being the youngest driver in the field, can't be taken lightly. He finished third and fourth in the last leg.

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1—(Qrt/Tri)—Sir Olizon (7), Samahan (3), Long Road (10), Diamond Sky (5)
Race 2—(Qrt/Tri)—Empire Lady (1), Gutsy (7), Mary Jane Bomb (6), Jayvie's Godfather (5)
Race 3—(Qrt/Tri)—Paminsanminsan (6), Lord Brian (5), Top Of D'Line (1), Totoo'To (2)
Race 4—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Little Girl (7), Open Sky (9), Smooth Strike/Take A Strike (1), LoveKO'To (4), Ole!Ole!Ole! (3)
Race 5—(Tri)—El Nido Way (4), Might And Power (2), Bull Rider (1)
Race 6—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Speed Bullet (6), Crew Cut (8), Rivendel (7), Sutter's Royal (4), Time Deposit (9)
Race 7—(Tri)—Vivere (4), Fairy Queen (5), Tinder (2)
Race 8—(Qrt/Tri)—Modern Classic (3), He's A Balong (4), Hurry Prince (6), Well Noted (2)
Race 9—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Erica's Talant (2), Sweet Talk (12), Bunker Buster (11), Kim Possible (4), Dona Nene (3)
Race 10—(Iron Mic (6), Federal Court (5), Iverson (1), Drink N Drink (7)
Race 11—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Western Legend (8), Blitzkrieg (4), Mas Que Nada (5), Prince Valiant (3), Stradivarius (7)
Race 12—(Qrt/Tri)—Western Dancer (4), St. Germain (6), Piroutte (5), Binukalan's Pride (1)
Race 13—(Super6/Qrt/Tri)—Blue Iris (8), Kalashnikov (10), Express Strike (11), Can And Will (1), Bashful Lady (4), Wing-Away (5)

Rotary golfest up in Bacolod

THE ROTARY GOLFING FELLOWSHIP FOUNDation of the Philippines' 2006 Rotary Golf Champion of the Year competition continues in the Southern Leg tournament set Aug. 24-27 in Bacolod City.

Negros Occidental Golf and Country Club and the Bacolod Golf and Country Club courses are the venues of the event, which had a Baguio City launching in January to mark RGFFP's 20th year.

The top four winners in Baguio in classes A, B, C and D, and the same number of winners in the Southern Leg will figure in the match play championship. They were:

Class A—Mars Garcia, RC-Baguio South; Peregrin de Guzman jr., RC-Cabanatuan; Tim Abejo, RC-Quezon City; and Honor Mendoza, RC-Makati Southwest.

Class B—Joey Magcalayo, RC-Lipa South; Johnny Chan, RC-Alabang; Emil Alviar, RC-Lipa; and Chito Cruz, RC-Metro West Triangle.

Class C—Danilo Mercado, RC-Bagumbayan; Tito TAnseco, RC-Metro West Triangle, Joel BElardo, RC-Makati Central; and Bobby Legaspi, RC-Baguio North.

Class D—Jay TAmbunting, RC-Makati West; Robert Ynson, RC-Intramuros; Fred Nakpil, RC-Sta. Maria; and Romeo David, RC-Pasay Mla.

MANNY Pacquiao (right) and Oscar larios share a light moment during the official weigh-in at the Discovery Suites yesterday. *(Stories on A23)* EDWIN BACASMAS

Highlands Ladies Cup stakes miles, Grandis

HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZES WORTH ALmost P2 million including 500,000 credit miles from HSBC and a Mitsubishi Grandis will be up for grabs in the First Highlands Ladies Cup, a fund-raising tournament on Saturday, July 15 at the Tagaytay Midlands golf course.

The post-summer event, a project of the newly formed Tagaytay Highlands Ladies Chapter with the full backing of Tagaytay Highlands' top honchos Willie Ocier and Jerry Tiu, is getting bigger and bigger.

Five Platinum and eight Gold sponsors and nine Silver backers, not to mention the almost two dozen companies giving out raffle and giveaway items, have thrown their support to the noble project.

Part of the proceeds of the event will benefit the Sisters of Mary in Boys and Girls Town in Silang, Cavite, which provides free education to poor children.

The miles credit from HSBC, the world's local bank, will be the prize for an ace on No. 12 while the Grandis will be won by the player who aces No. 5. A Club Car cart is at stake on No. 17 while Richwell Trading is giving Barbie dolls to players shooting aces on No. 3.

Joining HSBC as Platinum sponsors are Pilipinas Shell Petroleum, San Miguel Corp. and Highlands Prime. The Herma Group, INQUIRER Golf, Antonio's Restaurant, Rosalie Heo, Rosalind Wee, Richwell Trading/Barbie Dolls, Boysen Paints, Regent Travel and Celerity Healthy Quencher are the Gold sponsors.

Silver sponsors are Metrobaker (Dunkin Donuts), Welch, PBCom, Pascual Laboratories, Club Marinduque and Resorts, Orocan, Morning Glory, Theme and Burlington Socks.

Call Dolly or Maybelle at 536-2558 or 522-7189 or fax 521-8848 for details.

SPORTSWATCH

JVC Open heats up at Glorietta today

EIGHT TEAMS WHICH SURVIVED THE GRUELING ELIMINATIONS FIGHT IT OUT for berths in the semifinal round in the corporate division of the JVC Open Badminton Championships, which kicks off the final week of the P1 million event at the Glorietta Activity Center today. AB Leisure blanked Prudential Life, 3-0, while Meralco, Robinson's Land and defending champion Philippine Star all posted 2-0 victories over Toyota, ABS-CBN and Ayala Land, respectively, to virtually assure their stint in the next round where play shifts from a three-game contest to a five-match competition. Games start at 11 a.m. with the winners advancing to the semis slated on July 6 along with the semis matches in the elite division.

Benitez, Alvarez renew karting rivalry

THE RIVALRY BETWEEN TOP JUNIOR KARTERS JAVI BENITEZ OF JET RACING and John Alvarez of the Cebu Racing Group resumes as the 2006 Shell Superkarting Series moves to the Boomland Kart Track at the Cultural Center of the Philippine Complex on Sunday, July 9. After their successful partnership that bagged the Asian Karting Junior ROK crown for the country, Benitez and Alvarez will part ways. Following his triumph in the Asian karting event last month, Benitez paced the hunt for the Junior ROK plum of this event sanctioned by the Automobile Association Philippines and sponsored by Shell Helix, San Miguel Corp., Denso Iridium Power, Honda Phils. Eastway Company, Aeromed Ambulance Transport and Yokohama Kart Tires. Alvarez, who pivoted Benitez's title-clinching feat by distracting foreign rivals, is aiming to regain the top spot as he eyes a second straight victory. Joining them are Jet Racing karters Tomas Cabili, Roby Benito, Juha Turalba and Paco Rodriguez of the Cebu Racing Group.

Derby: P3.5 million up for grabs

THE MANAGEMENT OF SAN JUAN COLISEUM WILL STAGE THE RAMBULAN SA San Juan 5-cock derby on July 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, and 29, a super event that stakes a guaranteed pot of P3.5 million. Sponsor is Sagupaan Complexor 3000. "Small-time cockers and breeders can easily join because the entry fee is only P8,800," said Ronnie Lacsina of UBBA Sportsgroup, one of the promoters. Participants who will score two points in the elimination rounds (2-cock) on July 17, 19, 21 and 24 will share in the P200,000 day prize. Those with two points will advance to the championship round (3-cock) on July 29, with a total of P2 million on the line. Participants with 1 and 1.5 points will face one another on July 26, and will vie for the following prizes: day champion, P400,000; any three points, P200,000 and handler, P100,000. Contact the SJC office at 725-6563; 725-5369 and 0917-8041691.

Makati cockfest stakes P2M, Ford Escape

WITH CLOSE TO 200 ENTRIES EXPECTED, THE SALPUKAN SA TAGLUGON 5-cock derby offering P2 million plus a brand new Ford Escape blasts off at Makati Coliseum on July 10, 12, 15, 17, 19 and 22 with B- Meg Derby Ace as sponsor. Promoters Lito Orillaza, Rudy Salud and William Co of WTJ Sports and Amusement Corp. pegged the entry fee at P10,000 and minimum bet at P5,500. Participants may field an entry during the elimination rounds (2-cock) on July 10, 12, 15 and 17. The semifinal and finals round are scheduled on July 19 and 22. "To be fair, all participants must pass the 2-cock elimination rounds," said Orillaza. "No straight five cocks will be allowed." Meanwhile, the Winchester Gold 4-cock derby takes center stage at Makati Coliseum tomorrow with more than 60 fights. The total guaranteed prize is P300,000. For info, call 896-3545 and 895-6475.

LAS VEGAS 8-BALL

Bata banners RP team

A STRONG FILIPINO CONTINGENT led by defending champion Efren "Bata" Reyes will see action in the $2 million International Pool Tour (IPT) grand finals at the Venetian Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada, from July 23-30.

Also known as the 2006 North American 8-Ball Championship, the tournament carries the biggest pot of any pool tournament in the globe with the winner going home $350,000 (P18.5 million) richer.

Second place will be worth $99,000, with third worth $80,000.

"For flag and country, I will do my very best in this prestigious IPT event." said Reyes, the 2006 SMB Asian 9-ball tour Vietnam leg winner, in Filipino.

Reyes, a protégé of billiards patron Aristeo "Putch" Puyat and Billiards and Snooker Congress of the Philippines (BSCP) president Ernie Fajardo, thumped former IPT tour champ American Mike Sigel in the finals last December when the event was held at the Orlando Convention Center in Orlando, Florida.

"There's a strong possibility that a Filipino will win the championship," Puyat said. "The RP delegation will be composed of world class players who are all used to playing in tough, international settings."

The other Filipinos guaranteed of slots in the event are Francisco "Django" Bustamante, Marlon Manalo and Jose "Amang" Parica.

Others who qualified are Alex "The Lion" Pagulayan, Dennis Orcollo, Ronato Alcano, Warren Kiamco, Rodolfo Luat, Gandy Valle, Antonio Lining and Santos Sambajon. *Marlon Bernardino*

REYES: Will he be P18.5M richer?

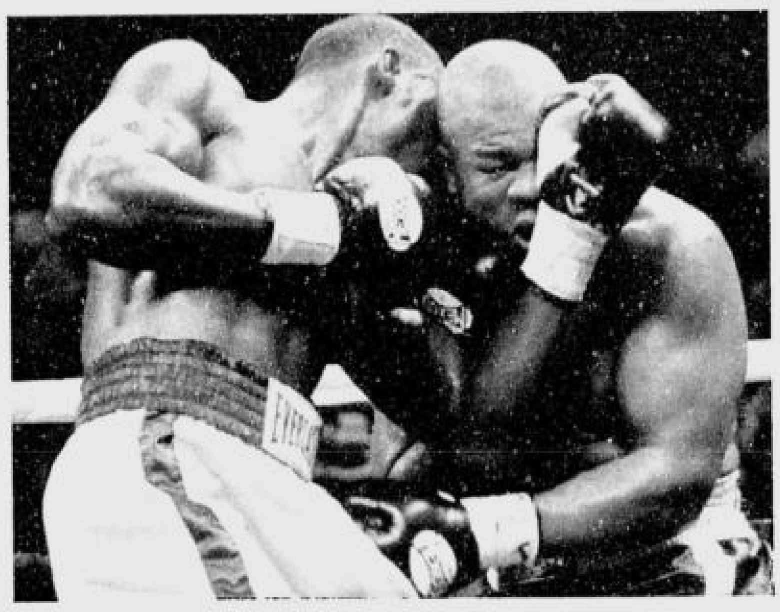
Kimoni Tour Manila draws record roster

A RECORD ROSTER OF 1,160 players vie for the last available berths for the grand finals in the Manila leg of the Kimoni Badminton Tour 2006 at the Olympic Badminton Court in Libis, Quezon City.

The field of the Manila leg, which started yesterday, of he Kimoni Tour is believed to be the biggest in the local tournament scene ever since the badminton fever hit the country.

The Kimoni Badminton Tour 2006, supported by Powerade, will be capped by the Battle of the Champions July 22 and 23 at the Market! Market! Activity Center in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, with the leg winners of various eliminations nationwide will compete for cash prizes and the limited edition of Kimoni Golden Power Rackets worth P20,000.

July 23 will be an extra special day as Kimoni Philippines has lined up an array of activities to spice up the event including celebrity matches, celebrity singers and the first ever Kimoni fashion show titled "Fashionably Kimoni!" as Kimoni launches their casual wears aside from their sports apparels, designed by their inhouse international endorser, Shiermie Bautista.



FIERCE BATTLE: Andre Purlett (left) tangles with Darnell Wislon during the third round of a boxing match in Hollywood Friday. AP

New dad Paragua makes short work of young foe

GRAND MASTER MARK PARAGUA needed 13 moves of a Reti Opening to crush 7-year-old Ivy Dennis Bucog at the start yesterday of first Ozamiz City National Open Chess Tournament at the Congressman Hilarion Ramiro Jr. City Gymnasium in Ozamiz, Misamis Occidental.

The 22-year-old Paragua, whose wife Christine gave birth to their first born, King Joshua, on June 19, prevailed with the black pieces to lead other opening day winners in the P70,000, nine-round Swiss event hosted and sponsored by Ozamiz Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog Sr.

Other first-round winners included second seed and National Master Emmanuel Senador of Iloilo City, No. 3 and newly installed International Master Oliver Dimakiling, fourth-ranked Barlo Nadera and No. 5 Richard Bitoon of Cebu. Seventh seed Mirabeau Maga of Quezon City and No. 9 Rustom Tolentino also advanced.

Senador trounced Joseph Caballes; Dimakiling clobbered Rolando Calapan; Nadera waylaid Gaere Capuyan; Bitoon nipped John Reymark Capuyan; Maga thumped Melchor Catanay and Tolentino tripped Quinnie Quilaton

A total of 172 players are seeing action in the event behind run by National Chess Federation of the Philippines Region 10 coordinator Rey Urbiztondo where the winner walks away with the top prize of P30,000. *Marlon Bernardino, contributor*

PACQUIAO-LARIOS TICKETS: Sportshouse recently held the raffle draw of their free tickets promo to the Manny Pacquiao-Oscar Larios Mano A Mano fight at the Big Dome today. From left, Prescy Tresvalles and Michelle Glinoga of Sportshouse, Mario Asis of the Department of Trade and Industry and Roy Ordiales of Sportshouse pick the winners at the Megamall outlet.

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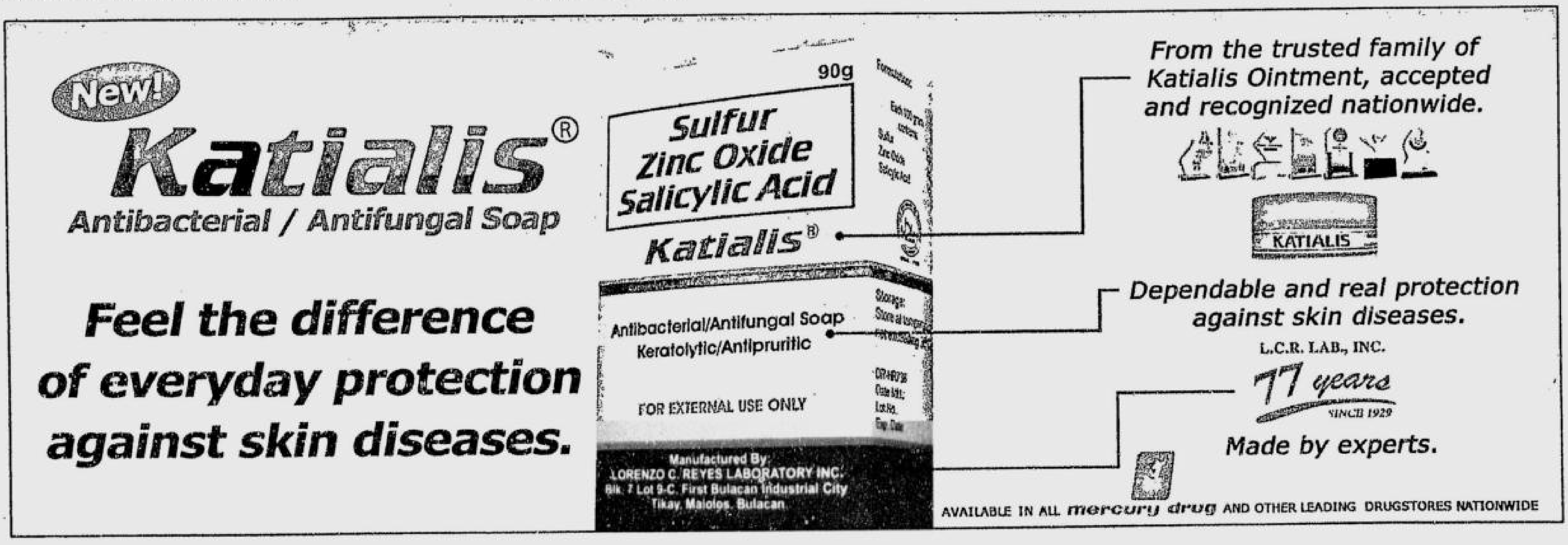

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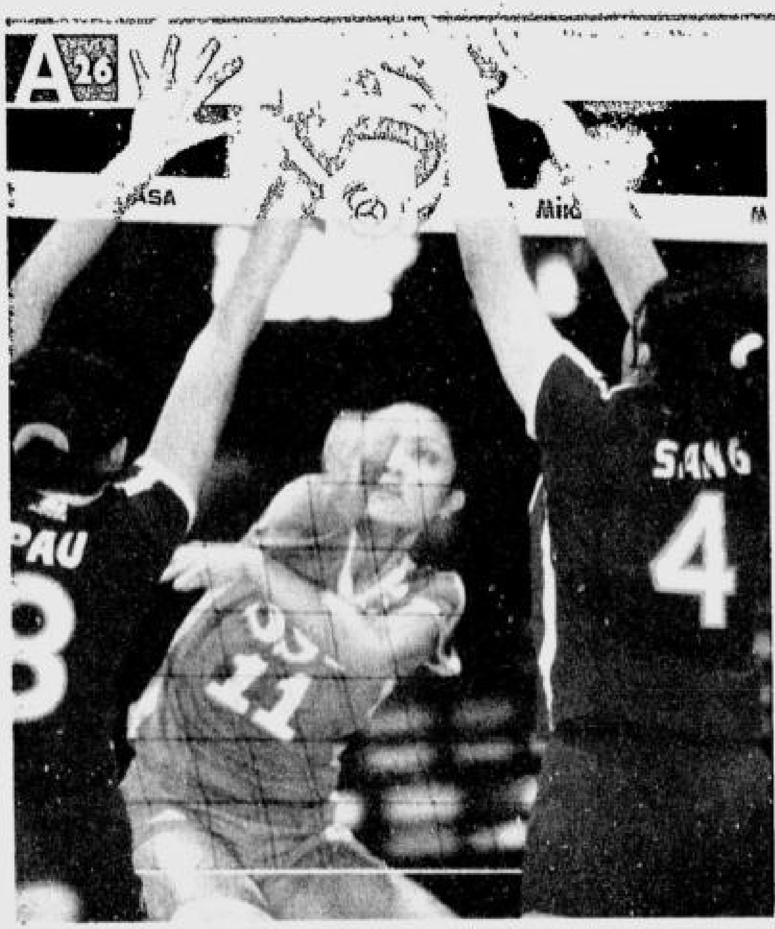

JOY Pulido of SSC challenges the defense of Adamson during the Shakey's V- League games at the Blue Eagle Gym in Ateneo. ERIK ARAZAS

V-LEAGUE

Lady Archers near crown

By Marc Anthony Reyes

LA SALLE MADE EFFICIENT USE OF ITS HIGH-POWERED LINEUP to overcome a San Sebastian side mainly dependent on its Thai import yesterday and move a victory away from capturing the 2006 Shakey's V-League second conference title at the Blue Eagle Gym.

With veteran Reiea Saet setting the ball up perfectly, the Lady Archers demolished the Lady Stags, 25-23, 25-13, 25-22, and now looked headed to a third straight V-League title.

Game 2 of the best-of-three series is set today at 2 p.m. after the 1 p.m. awarding rites for top individual performers.

In the first game, Adamson got 30 points from Cherry Rose Macatangay in downing Lyceum, 18-25, 25-18, 25-15, 25-19, to clinch third place. Macatangay, a favorite to win the top scorer award, hit all her points on the attack for the Lady Falcons, who were playing for the first time in the tourney organized by Sports Vision and backed by Accel, Mikasa, Aquabest, VFresh, ABC-5 and ABC Sports.

"We did a good job defending (Jaroensri) Bualee," said La Salle coach Ramil de Jesus, referring to the SSC's Thai reinforcement who still unloaded 17 points. "Our blocking clicked today."

GAME TODAY *(Blue Eagle Gym)*
1 p.m.—Awarding ceremony
2 p.m.—La Salle vs SSC-R (Game 2)

But it was the excellent work of Saet who kept La Salle's offense going.

La Salle's very own Thai import Jindarat Kanchana and skipper Desiree Hernandez went on to score 13 and 12 points, respectively. They each made 10 points on the attack.

Michelle Datuin and Manilla Santos also contributed nine and eight points, respectively.

Bualee, a front-runner for key individual awards today, failed to inspire San Sebastian which led, 4-0, in the second set but soon committed a rash of errors in setups and reception.

Saet, a stocky 5-foot-4 former national team mainstay, displayed better grasp of the game against her counterpart Ma. Theresa Iratay. She knew where everybody was at any given time and even escaped with a tip-in to give La Salle a 24-12 lead in the second set.

The Lady Stags managed to put up a fight in the third in a desperate attempt to extend the game, taking a 12-10 lead on back-to-back spikes by Jeanne Cathryn Espolong and Joy Pulido.

But Kanchana, Datuin and Santos took turns hammering winners to give the Archers the lead to stay at 18-16.

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NBA slam dunk champion Nate Robinson of the New York Knicks presents a pair of "Nate the Great" shoes to Ateneo cager Mike Gamboa for winning the Hard Work Award in the Nike All-Asia Basketball Camp in Beijing, China.

Ateneo jr star feted in All-Asia cage camp

By Jasmine W. Payo

IT'S NOT EVERY DAY WHEN A YOUNG, HIGH school standout catches the fancy of two NBA stars.

Ateneo's Michael "Mike" Gamboa got raves from NBA slam dunk champion Nate Robinson and Jason Richardson to become the only Filipino in the All-Star squad at the recent Nike All-Asia Basketball Camp in Beijing, China.

"Making it to the All-Star is already a big achievement," said Gamboa. "I did not expect to make it to the top 20 considering how tall and talented the other participants in the camp."

The 5-foot-6 guard received the Hard Work award that won him a pair of "Nate the Great" shoes from Robinson.

The 17-year-old Gamboa also reached the Final Four of the three-point contest of the five-day camp that lured 60 promising players from the Philippines, China, Taiwan, Australia, Japan and South Korea.

Gamboa earned a slot in the elite 20 after earning high marks based on performances in the first three days of drills and tests.

"It was a sweet and memorable experience," added Gamboa.

David Marcelo of San Beda and Joshua David Webb of La Salle Zobel also participated in the basketball camp.

Gamboa earned the right to represent the Philippines after bagging the Most Valuable Player plum in the Elite Camp organized by PBA mentor Eric Altamirano and PBL veteran Alex Compton.

"Mike's heart allows him to play big despite his size," said Ateneo juniors coach Jamike Jarin. "He really works hard."

Espinas named NC's week best

HE NEEDED TO search for his usual fiery self.

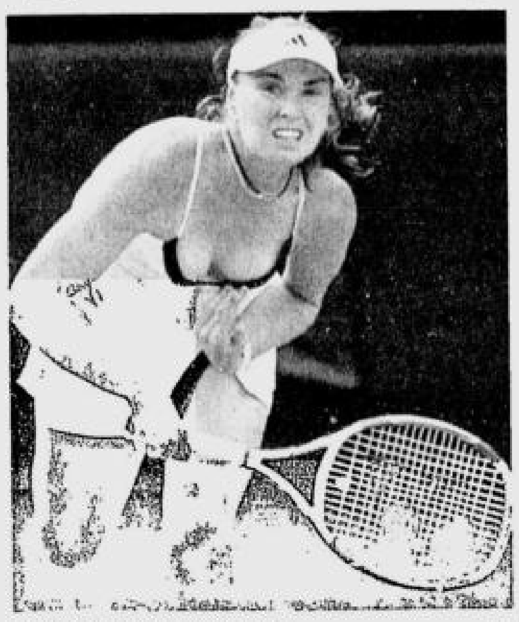
After struggling in his first two games, Philippine Christian University star Gabby Espinas finally rose to the challenge.

Espinas pumped in 24 points, eight rebounds and two blocks to lead the Dolphins to a 74-72 victory over San Sebastian College last Friday at the NCAA men's basketball tournament. With the feat, the Dolphins claimed solo second with a 2-1 win-loss mark.

"He just needs to be focused all the time and challenge himself at crucial times so that he can lift the team to victory," PCU coach Joel Dualan said of Espinas, who earned the league's first Player of the Week citation.

Federer's road to final opens up; Hingis out

LONDON—ROGER FEDERER was left with a clear run to a fourth successive Wimbledon final on Friday when danger-men David Nalbandian and James Blake both crashed out in the third round.



HINGIS: Dream run ends AFP

Argentinian fourth seed Nalbandian, one of just four men to have beaten Federer since the start of 2005, was dismissed by Spanish 28th seed Fernando Verdasco, 7-6 (11/9), 7-6 (11/9), 6-2.

Blake, the eighth seeded American, lost a gruelling five-setter to Belarussian giant Max Mirnyi, 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 6-1, 6-0.

In the women's event, 1997 champion Martina Hingis saw her dreams of a second title ended by Japanese veteran Ai Sugiyama who won their third round clash, 7-5, 3-6, 6-4.

Svetlana Kuznetsova, the Russian fifth seed and a former US Open champion, was also packing her bags as Li Na became the first Chinese woman to make the fourth round with a 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 win.

Federer, the triple champion and world No. 1, took full advantage of his rivals' slip-ups by clinching his 45th consecutive grass court win with a 6-3, 7-6 (7/2), 6-4 victory over France's Nicolas Mahut.

He will now face the Czech Republic's Tomas Berdych for a place in the quarterfinals.

"Mahut serves and volleys first and second serve but I'd rather hit constant winners from the baseline," said Federer. "I knew I had wait for my chances and not get frustrated."

Nalbandian, the 2002 runner-up, paid a heavy price for demanding that his match be scheduled as early as possible to allow him time to watch Argentina face Germany in the World Cup quarterfinals.

"I had never played a match before on the same day as a World Cup game, but the organizers were OK about it," said Nalbandian.

Lleyton Hewitt, the 2002 champion, reached the third round after edging a marathon five-setter against South Korea's Lee Hyung-Taik.

The sixth-seed Australian broke Lee's service in the tenth game of the fifth set to clinch a 6-7 (4/7), 6-2, 7-6 (8/6), 6-7 (5/7), 6-4 victory in a match that had been interrupted on Thursday night at the end of the fourth set.

In total, the Australian was on court for five minutes short of four hours—far from ideal preparation for Saturday's third round meeting with Belgian Olivier Rochus.

"Survival, that's all it really was out there," said Hewitt. "I was frustrated that I didn't close it out on Thursday but he's a hell of a shotmaker."

In the other third round match held over from Thursday, Britain's Andy Murray saw off France's Julien Benneteau, 7-6 (7/5), 6-4, 4-6, 6-1, to set up a fourth round clash against Andy Roddick.

Hingis, playing here for the first time since 2001, squandered a 3-0 lead in the final set against Sugiyama who now faces France's Severine Bremond for a place in the quarterfinals.

Li, the 27th seed, will face 10th seeded Nicole Vaidisova of the Czech Republic for a quarter-final spot but China was unable to celebrate a second woman in the fourth round when Belgian second seed Kim Clijsters beat Zheng Jie, 6-3, 6-2.

Justine Henin-Hardenne, fresh from her third French Open triumph, moved into the fourth round as she targets winning the only Grand Slam to have eluded her.

The Belgian third seed eased past Anna Chakvetadze, the Russian 30th seed, 6-2, 6-3 and will take on Daniela Hantuchova next. *AFP*

All eyes on Nadal-Agassi match

NADAL AFP

LONDON—SPANISH POWERHOUSE Rafael Nadal can bring the curtain down on Andre Agassi's Wimbledon career on Saturday when they battle for a place in the fourth round.

Agassi's announcement that he will retire after this year's US Open has merely increased interest in the Centre Court showdown between the eight-times grand slam champion and the 20-year-old double French Open winner.

It should prove an intriguing contest in which Agassi will need all his wily grasscourt skills to bridge the 16-year age gap between the players.

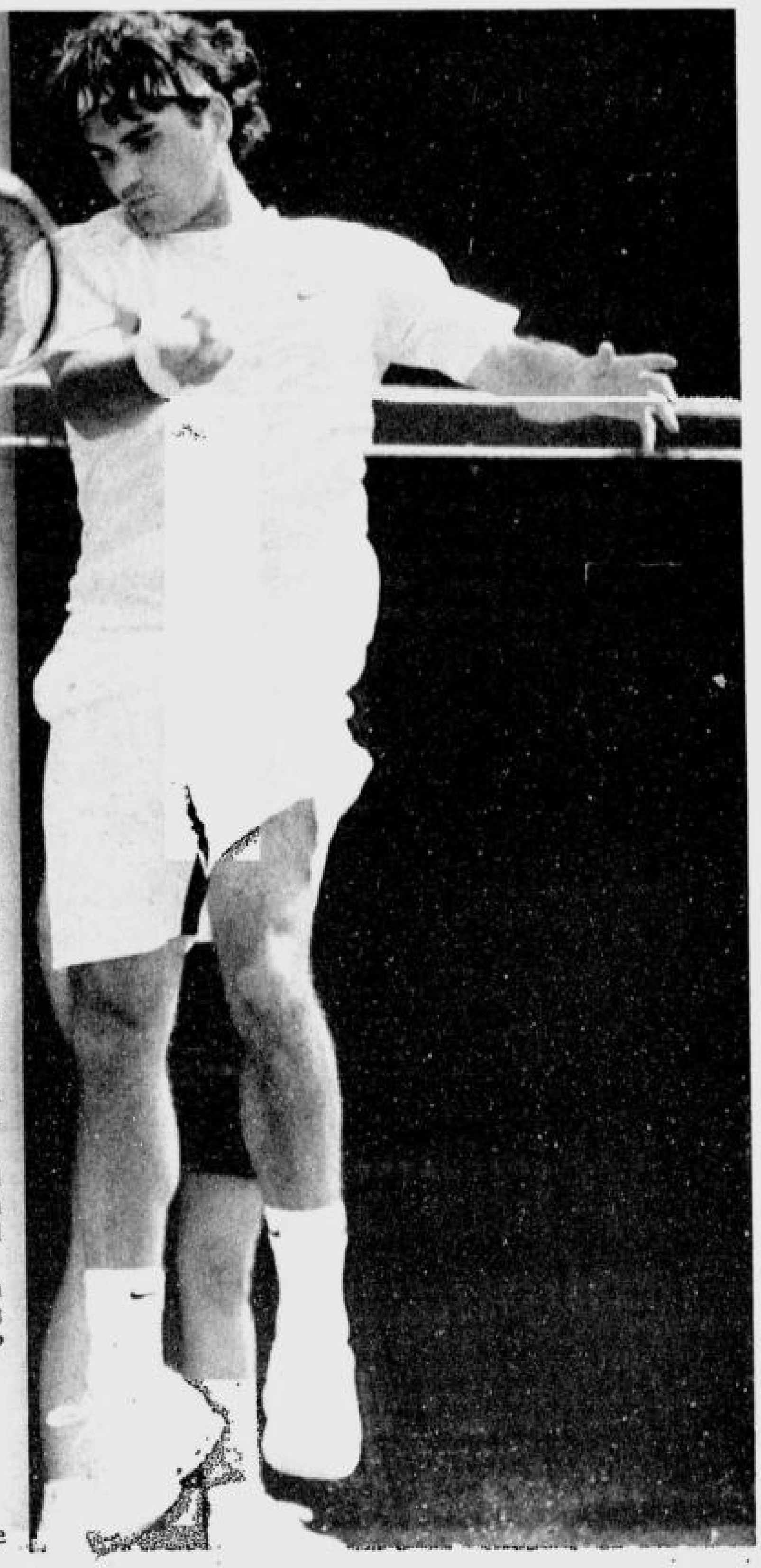
Nadal is still learning how to play on Wimbledon's lawns, as witnessed by his struggle to see of American qualifier Robert Kendrick on Thursday, but his fighting qualities are without question.

Andy Roddick, runner-up for the last two years, takes on Andy Murray, the last surviving British player, later on the main showcourt—a match that could overlap with England's World Cup quarter-final against Portugal.

Wins for Murray and David Beckham and company could spark quite a party around Wimbledon's Champagne bars.

Women's champion Venus Williams will hope for a more straightforward time when she plays Serb Jelena Janokovic in the third round on court two.

Williams was on the brink of defeat against Lisa Raymond in round two before pulling victory out of the fire. World number one Amelie Mauresmo is also in action against Nicole Pratt, while 2004 champion Maria Sharapova plays Amy Frazier. *Reuters*



DEFENDING champion Roger Federer returns to France's Nicolas Mahut, during their men's singles, third round match on the Number One Court at Wimbledon.

Zulkifli, Thai rule RP leg of Asian Tour

MALAYSIAN SHALIN ZULKIFLI AND THAI Surasak Manuwong ruled the Philippine leg of the Asian Bowling Federation (ABF) Tour held recently at the Eastwood Bowling Center.

Ranked No. 1 in Asia, the 27-year-old Zulkifli crushed PBC Open champion Kang Hyun-jin of Korea, 188-155, to win her second straight tour title. She won the Thailand leg two months ago.

Zulkifli, who also won this year's Thailand Open, ousted Filipino Marjo Reyes, 225-200, while Kang downed compatriot Kim Eun-Jung, 236-226, to advance in the championship round of this event supported by H.S. Pow Construction and Development Corporation, Smart Telecoms, Eastwood City and Paeng's Eastwood Bowl and Billiards Center.

Manuwong pocketed his first international title after posting a 212-157 victory over Filipino Chester King.

The Thai had earlier won over another Filipino, 2005 Philippine Open champion CJ Suarez, 214-179, in the second semifinal match while King beat Korean Kong Byoung-hee, 242-199, in the first semis match.

The next stop of the eight-leg ABF Tour will be in Jakarta, Indonesia, on July 30.

Prince Home and Away tilt

SEVEN TEAMS LED BY DEFENDING CHAMPION Philippine Columbian Association are seeing action in the 2006 Prince Home and Away Invitational Tennis tournament slated July 1 to August 19. Also participating are last year's runnerup Mandaluyong Tennis Club, second runner up Valle Verde Country Club (VVCC), Eusebio Tennis Club (ETC), Mandaluyong Lawn Tennis Club (MLTC), La Consolacion (LACO) and Capitol Tennis Club (CTC). Each tie will have the 35 and above ladies, 55 and above doubles, 45 and above doubles, 35 and above doubles 1 and 2, and open doubles 1 and 2 events. The team which wins four-of-seven events wins the tie. Tournament format calls for the top two teams after the single round-robin elimination advancing into the semifinal round while the 3rd to 7th placers will dispute the other two berths The winners in the semis will play in the winner-take-all championship round.

JENNIFER Rosales of the Philippines hits out of a bunker on the way to a 78. REUTERS

Sorenstam, Pak take lead

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND—SOUTH KOREA'S Se Ri Pak, eyeing a second straight major title, joined a four-way tie for the lead at the US Women's Open on Friday that also included Swedish superstar Annika Sorenstam.

Pak, who won the McDonald's LPGA Championship just three weeks ago, posted a steady 69 that was matched by Sorenstam, Pat Hurst and amateur Jane Park at Newport Country Club.

"I just had such a solid round. It didn't give me any trouble out there," said the 28-year-old Pak, who nearly a decade ago blazed the trail for South Korean golfers on the LPGA. "I have so much confidence in myself, so I really enjoyed it."

On a day when the average score was 76 strokes, the foursome were one shot in front of a group of five players that included 16-year-old sensation Michelle Wie.

Mexico's Lorena Ochoa, this year's LPGA money leader, was two back.

"My round wasn't perfect today so I'm not absolutely happy with it," Wie said. "But I felt I had a very solid round, lots of pars, and that's what the US Open is, you have to have pars."

"I hit a lot of fairways, hit a lot of greens and I know it's going to get better and better, so I think that's a good opening round."

After thick fog prevented any play on Thursday, the tournament finally began under sunny skies.

Overnight thunderstorms left the course sodden, and players were forced to take casual relief with monotonous regularity.

"We have a lot of drops because of all the casual water in the fairway," Pak said. "The condition of the course is really making it a lot harder. I had to hit a lot of 4- and 3-irons to the green, which is not easy."

Pak was only 20 when she burst onto the scene winning the 1998 US Women's Open and LPGA Championship, and she remained a dominant player until last year, when she slumped to 102nd on the money list, due partly to injuries, but also to burn out.

She quit on the ninth hole at the Women's British Open after failing to reach the green in eight shots, and did not return for the rest of the year.

"I feel great to be back," she said. *AFP*

Tour de France pedals off sans big name stars

STRASBOURG, FRANCE—THE Tour de France will begin the post-Lance Armstrong era in dramatic but dire fashion here Saturday after three of the yellow jersey favorites were effectively thrown out the race.

Jan Ullrich and Ivan Basso were suspended by their respective teams after reports of them being on a list of 58 alleged blood dopers refused to go away.

Later in the day the entire Astana team, which is spearheaded by Alexandre Vinokourov of Kazakhstan, was pulled out of the race by its management company after it emerged that five of their nine riders are also on the list of riders alleged to have used the blood doping services of a tainted former team doctor currently being investigated in Madrid.

In total, 13 riders were thrown off the Tour Friday, including Spaniards Francisco Mancebo, of AG2R, and T-Mobile's Oscar Sevilla.

It also means none of last year's top five are now in the starting line-up, leaving the race to succeed seven-time winner Armstrong embarrassingly wide open.

The doping probe in Spain has yet to reach its conclusions, and more names could follow suit.

Far from wondering who will succeed the now retired 34-year-old Armstrong, reactions to what could emerge as the biggest doping crisis since the 1998 Festina drugs scandal almost brought the Tour to its knees were unanimous.

"It's a shock. I'm extremely disappointed, but we have to assum what has happened and react to positively," said AG2R manager V cent Lavenu.

Lavenu's words must have bee particularly difficult to muster.

The Frenchman, whose ha work trying to get his team Pro To status—and with it an automa Tour invite—was rewarded at t start of the season, was forced suspend his team leader.

Spaniard Mancebo, who car fourth in the Tour last year behi Ullrich, is also on the now infamo list but is now on his way home a possibly leaving professional c cling behind.

For Lavenu, the consequenc could be more serious.

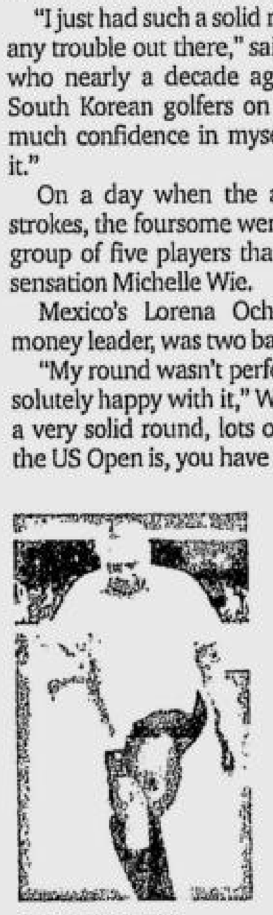
"For us, getting into the Pro To was the result of huge efforts on o part. We got in, and we even had a chance of making it on to the Tour podium," he added.

"But as we see, it can also have negative effects. And who's to say whether one of our sponsors decides to leave us at the end of the year?"

It was the exclusion of Basso and Ullrich, however, which has caused thet biggest sensation.

Basso, the recent winner of the Tour of Italy with a convincing margin of over nine minutes, was primed to move up from second to first place after yet another year of promise.

However shortly after Ullrich's suspension was announced by the German team T-Mobile, it did not take long for CSC to follow suit. *AFP*



ROMUALDEZ

Romualdez lines up football calendar

COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL ACTION KICKED OFF yesterday with the 4th Ang Liga tournament at the Philsports football field.

Organized by the Philippine Football Federation, Ang Liga games will be held at the Ateneo de Manila University on July 8-9.

PFF president Johnny Romualdez, who graced the opening rites, noted the growing popularity of the sport "since the inspiring performance of the national teams in the SEA Games last year."

Other competitions lined up for the year include the PFF-Red Ribbon Football Fiesta and the 10-day Tiger Cup qualifier to be staged by the PFF and the Negros Occidental Football Association.

Last summer, the PFF organized football festivals with Solar Entertainment to promote the 2006 World Cup in different parts of the country.

The project led local football to television through cable-TV show "The Quest For The Cup", produced and created by the SportsPlus channel.

By partnering the German Technical Cooperation, the PFF also promoted peace and development through football in the Visayas and Mindanao. Lufthansa also supported the football community by recognizing excellent past and present football players.

Romualdez added that sponsor partners like Solar Entertainment, Red Ribbon Bakeshop, Petron, Lufthansa, 2Go and GTZ continue to support the federation's programs. Jasmine W. Payo

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JENS Lehmann makes a game-winning save from a penalty by Esteban Cambiasso. REUTERS

WORLD CUP

'Keeper Lehmann saves German bid

BERLIN—RACKED WITH exhaustion, its leader hobbled by cramps and fatigue, Germany summoned its last reserve of energy.

Showing there's no end to their resourcefulness and tenacity at this World Cup, the hosts beat Argentina, 4-2, in a shootout Friday after a grueling 1-1 draw. Moments after he sat on the pitch at the end of a goal-less extra time, captain Michael Ballack converted a penalty kick to help dispatch an old rival—and one of the tournament's fellow glamour teams.

While Germany took advantage of Argentina backup keeper Leonardo Franco with one penalty kick after another, veteran Jens Lehmann stopped two, putting Germany in the semifinals of the World Cup.

"It's a thriller, like a Hitchcock movie," Germany coach Juergen Klinsmann said. "Obviously you're the happiest person in the world if you win it, and the saddest if you lose."

The party heads to Dortmund for the semifinal Tuesday against Italy, with Germany riding a feeling of near-invincibility. The Germans, looking like world beaters after their toughest test, are seeking their fourth world title.

MIROSLAV Klose celebrates the goal that allowed Germany to tie the game and set the stage for the shootout against Argentina. REUTERS

Argentina heads home exhausted, despite controlling the ball for most of the match.

"It was a very emotional game, worth a quarterfinal," said Argentina coach Jose Pekerman, who resigned after the game. "Argentina played like a favorite, played well, even though they lost."

Argentina, which came into the game having lived up to its reputation with creative, free-flowing offense, played tentatively in the first half but led 1-0 early in the second on Roberto Ayala's soaring header in the 49th minute.

But rather than panic after falling behind for the first time in the tournament, the Germans relentlessly wore down Argentina from there. Germany pressed the attack on Franco, who was playing only his third game with Argentina and his first minutes of the World Cup. *AP*

CRY, ARGENTINA, cry. Argentina fans openly weep following their team's loss in a penalty shootout at the end of the quarterfinal World Cup football match against Germany. AFP

Adversity-struck Italians find way to reach semis

HAMBURG, GERMANY—THE COUNTRY IS BESET BY ITS biggest match-fixing scandal in two dozen years, and a former teammate is fighting for his life after falling from a window.

In the face of such adversity, Italy rode a surge of emotion and produced its best performance in six years Friday for a 3-0 victory over newcomer Ukraine to set up a World Cup semifinal against host Germany.

Striker Luca Toni ended his World Cup frustration with two second-half goals and defender Gianluca Zambrotta produced an all-around performance with a goal, an assist and a goal-line clearance.

Right after the match, Italy's players unfurled an Italian tricolor flag with the inscription "Pessottino we are with you." It referred to Gianluca Pessotto, who played for Italy's Euro 2000 runners-up and was in a drug-induced coma after falling from a Juventus team headquarters window in Turin early in the week.

"My goal was for Pessottino," said former Juventus teammate Zambrotta, who flew home earlier in the week to visit his friend. "All the squad want to extend an affectionate hug to him."

Pessotto was appointed Juventus team manager after the match-fixing scandal engulfed Italy's most successful club.

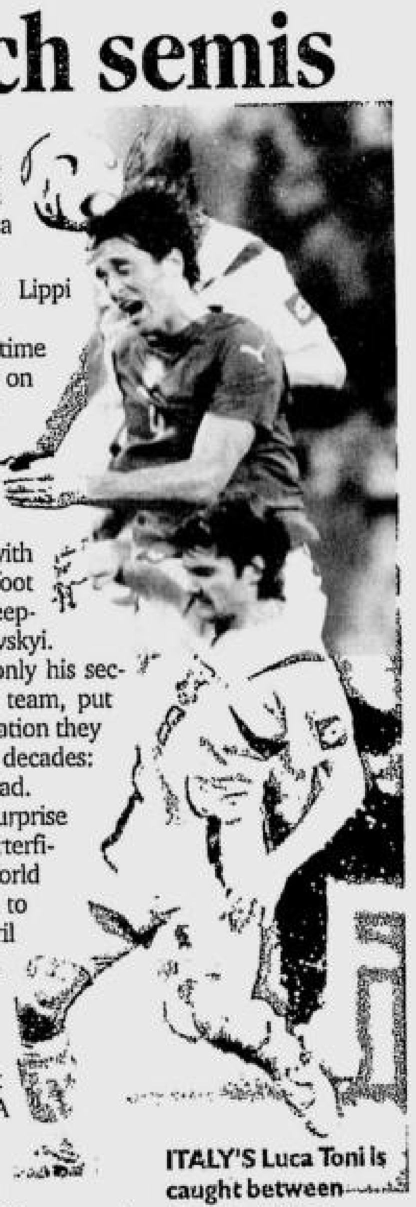
"This team has an incredible character and a fantastic spirit," Italy coach Marcello Lippi said.

Italy wasted no time showing its mind was on the match. In the sixth minute, Zambrotta ran down the right side, exchanged passes with Francesco Totti and finished it with a searing 20-yard left foot drive that beat goalkeeper Oleksandr Shovkosvskyi.

Zambrotta's goal, only his second for the national team, put the Azzurri in the situation they have perfected over decades: defending a slender lead.

Ukraine—the surprise team to make the quarterfinals in its maiden World Cup run—was able to stay in the match until the 58th minute, when Zambrotta kicked a ball off his own goal line.

It would be the last chance of an upset. A minute later, Toni sealed the victory with his first World Cup goal, then added insurance in the 69th minute when he slid in Zambrotta's goalmouth pass. *AP*



ITALY'S Luca Toni is caught between Ukraine's Oleg Shelayev (below) and Andriy Husin. REUTERS

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ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

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NATIONAL Artist for Dance Ramon Obusan (far left, second from left) with the Lukayo women who are really farm workers (center photo) between performances of the fertility dance.

Censors suspend 'I-Witness'

What can or cannot be aired on TV?

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

"I-WITNESS," GMA 7'S LATE-night documentary program, was suspended for two weeks by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) because of "violations" committed in the episode "Lukayo: Hindi Ito Bastos," aired on May 22.

The MTRCB's decision was indicated in a memorandum dated June 22 and addressed to Jose Mari Abacan, vice president for program management of GMA 7, and Howie Severino, "I-Witness" host and head writer.

The memo was signed by MTRCB chair Ma. Consoliza "Marissa" Laguardia.

It resulted from the adjudication hearing called by the board on June 6 and attended by GMA 7 representatives Severino, Nessa Valdellon, vice president for Public Affairs, Ella Evangelista, executive producer of "I-Witness," and lawyer Dick Perez, vice president for Legal Affairs.

The complaint involved the ritual dance, Lukayo, first documented by National Artist and ethnologist Ramon Obusan. The Laguna-based tradition was described in the memo as depicting "women [wearing] wooden [phalluses] of exaggerated sizes ... and [an] act of masturbation."

Laguardia pointed out: "Presidential Decree 1986 substantially provides that any television program that does not conform to the 'G' and 'PG' classification may not be aired ... phalluses and masturbation do not fall within the 'G' and 'PG' classification, applying

CENSORS/ A2-2

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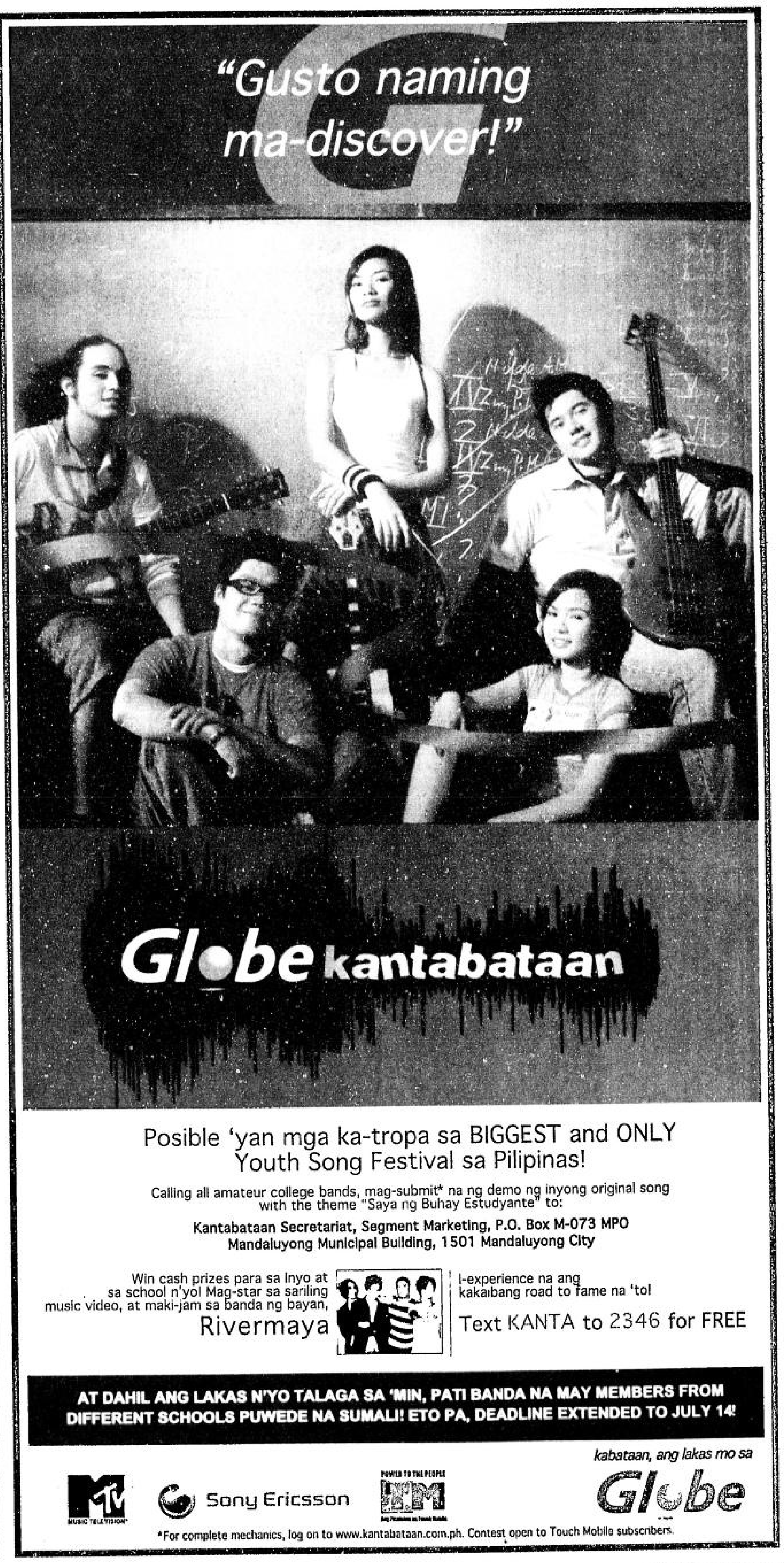

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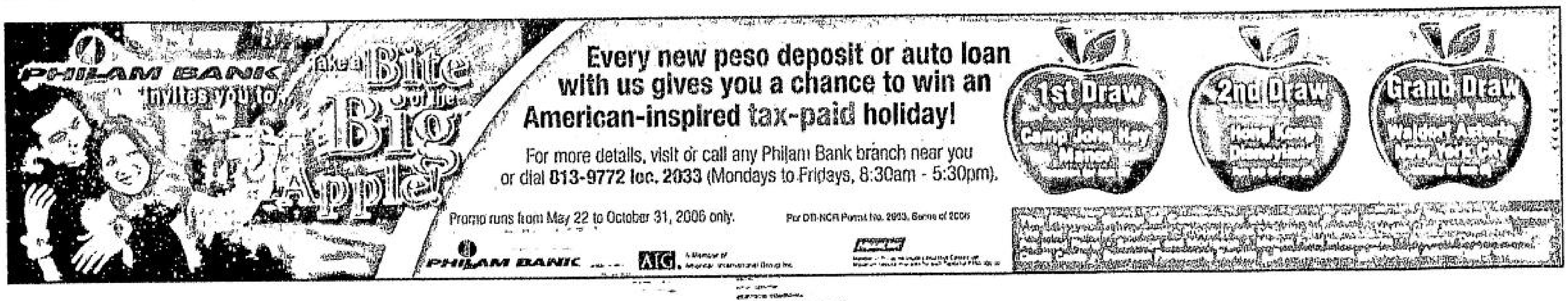

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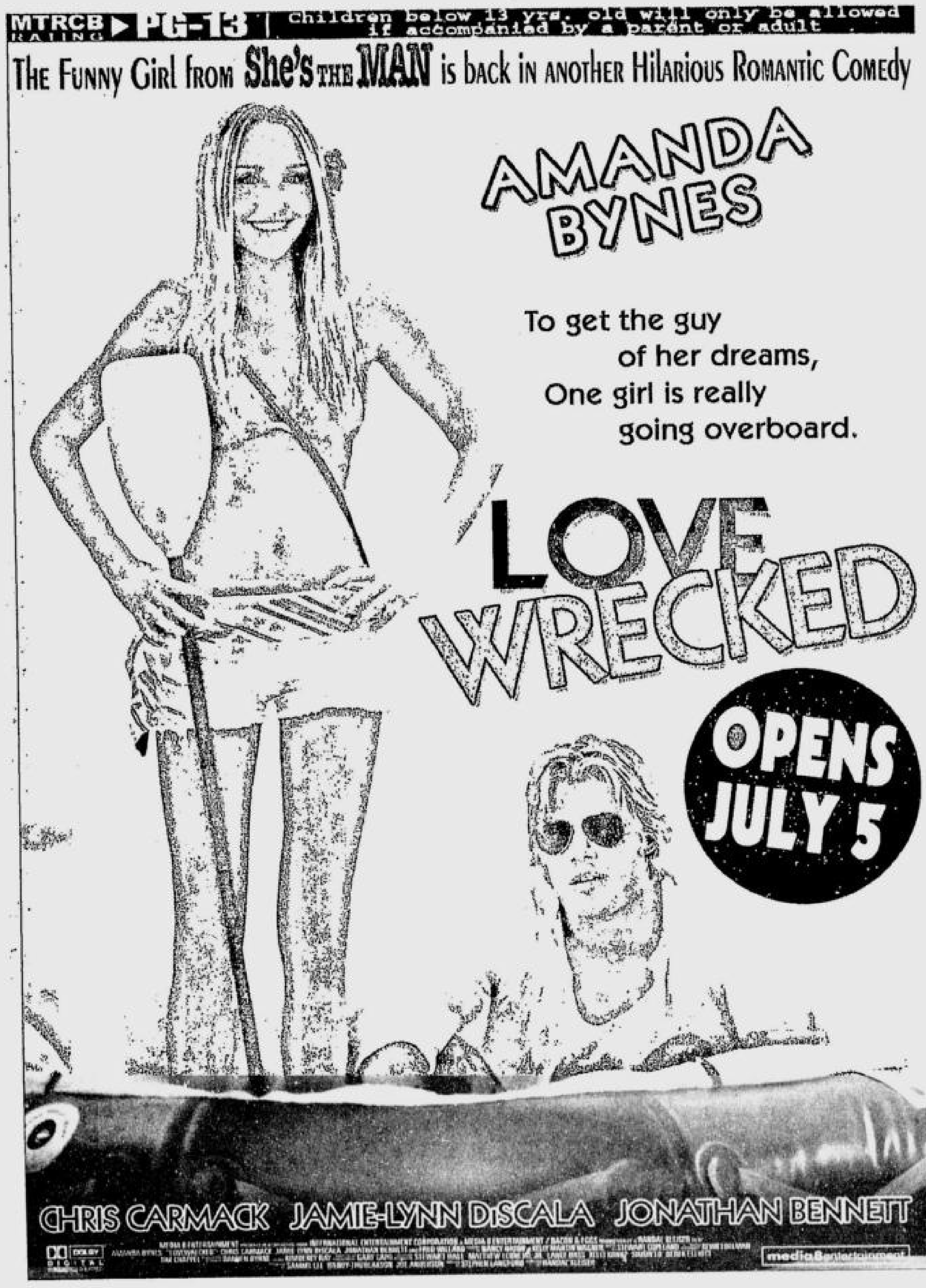
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Focus on news, not news

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

NEWS ANCHORS ON PHILIPpine TV newscasts, take it from veteran US broadcast journalist **Dan Rather**: "Too much is made of anchors and their personalities. Much more attention should be paid to the role of a free press, and the 'corporatization' of news."

That's a timely reminder, because some local TV news reporters and anchors have become too full of themselves, and their alleged star status and celebrity.

This is obvious in their look, demeanor and behavior on their newscasts: The male news persons come off like Mafiosi in their tight suits, colored shirts and attention-calling neckties.

As for their female counterparts, they're overly made-up, coiffed, outfitted and bejewelled. And, as they intone the news, they're given to occasionally semaphoring their reactions by way of little smirks, sighs and Mona Lisa smiles.

All of this is neither here nor there, because viewers don't really care for "personalities" where they're watching a newscast. They want to get objectivity, credibility and comprehensive and balanced coverage—no more, no less.

So, why do some local TV news people focus on superficialities rather than the core essentials of their work? Because they aren't real journalists, they're just telegenic people who read the news that other people have covered and written.

Also, the line between news and entertainment has been blurred. These days, some TV news anchors also co-host morning programs, magazine shows and other non-news and public affairs productions. So, is it any wonder that they tend to focus on themselves, rather than the news at hand?

Some news people are able to shift their approach, depending on the kind of show they're doing. Unfortunately, others can't make the shift, so their entertainment persona adversely colors their work when they're on news mode.

What's the way out of this mess? Our TV networks have to more rigorously separate news from non-news functions, and not expect thei on-camera personnel to be quite s "versatile."

The bottom line is, viewers ar most fully focused on the news, no on the telegenic people reporting it. This may be a downer for TV news persons—but there it is.

'Good House Music'

The dance compilation album "Good House Music," gathers 15 o the coolest club hits, from Tim Maas, to Italy's trance diva Moony Germany's Artlab, and Australia' Disco Montego.

Also included is "O Anó?," a naughty local remix featuring dialogue excerpts by **Dindo Fernando** and **Gloria Diaz** from **Danny Zialcita**'s '70s movie, "Nagalit ang Buwan sa Haba ng Gabi."

"O Ano?" is supported by a hilarious music video starring **Jojo Alajar** doing his famous dance antics whil walking the streets of Manila in his trademark suit and tie.

Censors suspend 'I-Witness'

From page A2-1

contemporary Filipino values and good customs as standards."

In a phone interview with INQUIRER Entertainment, Severino said the suspension "highlighted several issues"—foremost of which was the "basic disagreement within our society on what is moral and immoral, on what can or cannot be shown on television."

Severino said this could serve as a "test" case. "A major question raised is 'Where do we draw the line?' The MTRCB has drawn the line. Those who value freedom of expression believe that the line can be moved ... if more people became enlightened."

Laguardia told INQUIRER, also in a phone interview: "We must take note that it was shown on national television ... the general public may not be used to a small-town ritual like Lukayo."

She clarified in the memo that the board wasn't "passing judgment on the culture or tradition of indigenous communities."

TV exec offended

The chief censor recounted that, in the June 6 adjudication meeting, one of the network's officers "admitted that she was initially offended by what she saw ... [and only] appreciated the documentary when the [cultural aspect] was explained to her."

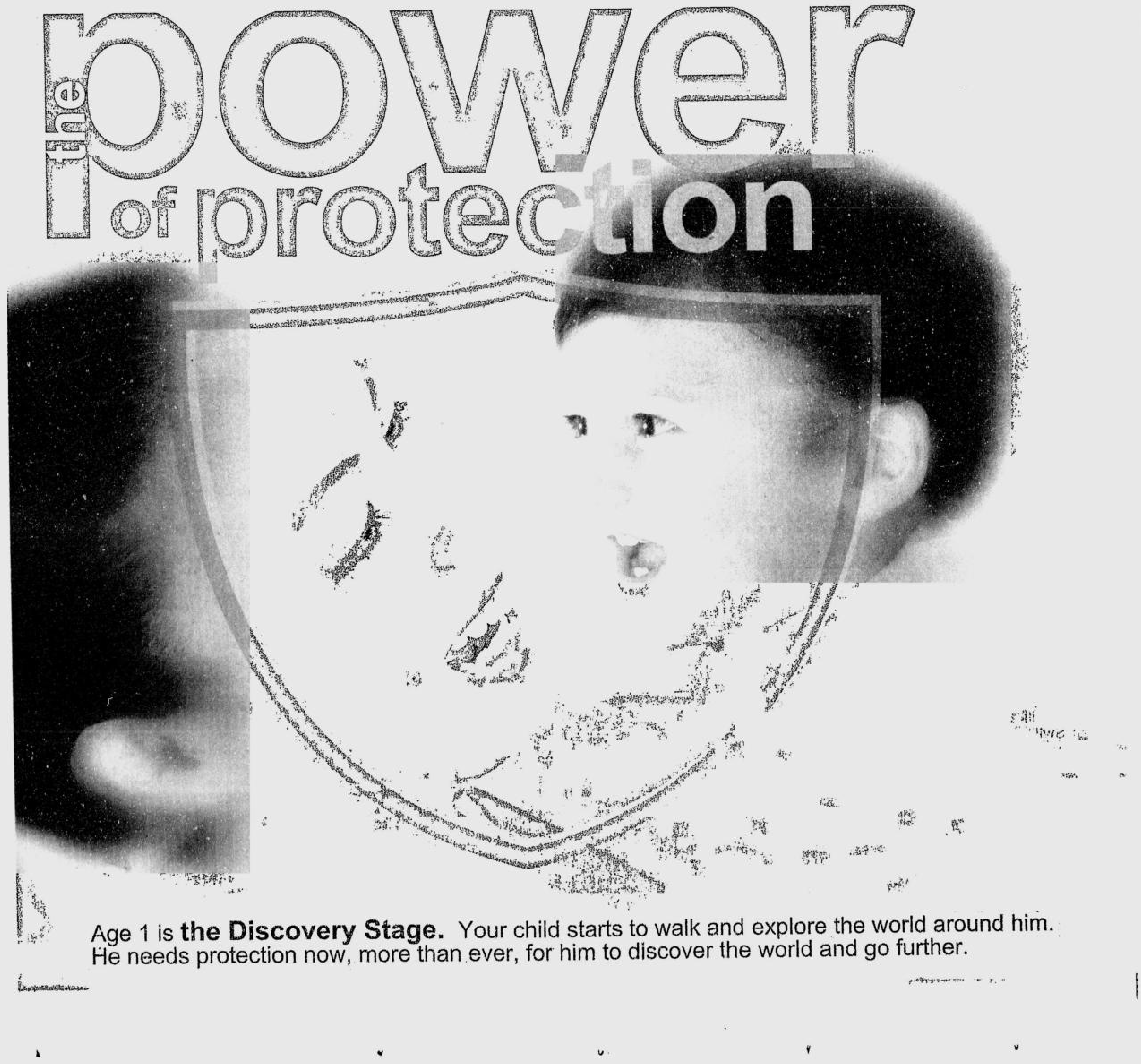
Laguardia identified the GMA official as Valdellon. She said Valdellon's admission offered proof that the "program had objectionable content... unfortunately, not all viewers could have the tradition explained to them."

The suspension was "effective immediately" upon receipt of the notice.

"Since we received the letter on Wednesday [June 28], the program will not go on air on July 3 and 10," Severino, who recently received the TV Investigative Journalist of the Year award given by the Rotary Club of Manila, said.

He was not disputing the decision, he clarified. "We were given due process. We were allowed to explain our side. Mr. Obusan was also present during the hearing."

He said he was glad for the chance to see how the board worked, adding: "We are law-abiding members of the television industry and the MTRCB is the regulatory board governing the industry."



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LINDSAY Lohan

'Superman Returns'

"Superman Returns," which opened on Wednesday, is the spiritual descendant of "Superman, The Movie" and "Superman II," and utilizes elements of **Marlon Brando's** performance as Jor-El.

The new film's director, **Bryan Singer,** has always felt an emotional affinity for Clark Kent's character, because they were both adopted.

As for Superman's persona, Singer has given it a somber, meditative tone, without detracting from his superhero exploits. And his casting of **Kevin Spacey** as his main nemesis is inspired.

Small wonder, then, that preview reviews of the film have been appreciative and enthusiastic, adding to the groundswell of interest that presages the movie's official playdate.

Fashion comedies

Two new films highlight trendy fashions and/or the world of haute couture: In "The Devil Wears Prada," **Meryl Streep** plays the beautiful but "monstrous" editor of Runway magazine, which is regarded as the Holy Grail of high fashion.

Anne Hathaway plays a fresh college graduate who is determined to become the editor's new assistant, even if it means making herself over in her vicious boss' image.

Soon, to her boyfriend's dismay, she can talk the talk and walk the walk flawlessly. But, the more of life she sees through Streep's eyes, the more she begins to grasp that the fashion world is a fabulous but lonely one, and that great success depends on great sacrifice.

The second trendy comedy, "Just My Luck," stars **Lindsay Lohan** as the luckiest woman in the world. Unfortunately, her luck runs out when she dances with **Chris Pine's** hapless character at a masquerade ball. At that moment, they switch lucks, and Lohan's world is turned upside down!

Lohan, a fashion enthusiast, wears the trendiest clothes when her character is in her "lucky" mode—Versace cashmere coat, high-heeled Valentino boots, white cashmere pashmina, etc. But, when her luck changes, she wears a hodgepodge of clothes borrowed from other people that reflect her unfortunate turn of events.

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OPENS JULY 12

Nestlé

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with Lactobacillus PROTECTUS™
the latest innovation in milk nutrition

The 3-Point Revolution

Lactobacillus PROTECTUS

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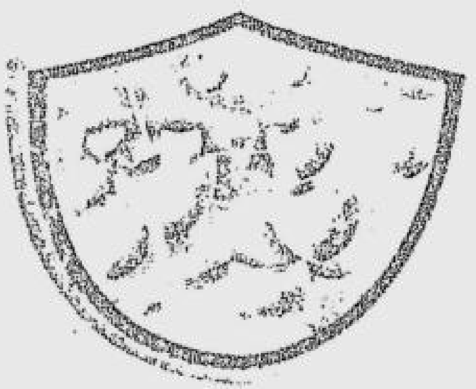
NIDO 1+ is the first to introduce Lactobacillus PROTECTUS™ in a milk powder. It is a live microorganism that helps build your child's body defenses.



2 How It Works

Once NIDO 1+ is mixed with water, the Lactobacillus PROTECTUS™ multiplies by the millions and when consumed start to boost your child's immune system.

3 Active Protection And More!

NIDO 1+ also has Prebio[1] – a unique blend of natural fiber – and essential vitamins and minerals that further strengthen his immune system. Plus DHA for visual and mental development.

Continuous Drinking = Continuous Protection

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2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
PREMIERE
SUPERMAN RETURNS

CINEMA 2000
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, China Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SCARY MOVIE - 4
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

starmall
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
5 FAST 7 THE FURIOUS -3

metropolis star cinema
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 6433594
1 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
2 WHORE
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

THEATRES
1 GARFIELD - 2
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS

PACIFIC MALL LUCENA CINEMAGIC
Pacific Mall Lucena Tel (042) 660-5221
1 PACQUIAO
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
5 SCARY MOVIE - 4
6 SUPERMAN RETURNS
7 LAKE HOUSE
8 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS -3
9 SUPERMAN RETURNS
10 PACQUIAO

Blue Wave
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927
1 (DOLBY) SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 (DOLBY) SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 (DOLBY) SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 (DOLBY) THE FAST & THE FURIOUS - 3

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
tel 7334228
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
4 THE NUN
5 PACQUIAO

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3051 / 533.3856
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SCARY MOVIE - 4
3 WHORE
4 RESERVED

Masagana CINEMA 2000
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 PACQUIAO
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 THE OMEN 666

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 THE NUN
3 SUPERMAN RETURN
4 SCARY MOVIE - 4

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 CARS
2 PACQUIAO

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 SCARY MOVIE - 4
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 LAKE HOUSE

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Binan) tel. (049) 4111146
1 LAKE HOUSE
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SCARY MOVIE - 4

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 PACQUIAO
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 THE INSIDE MAN
2 PACQUIAO
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS / LAKE HOUSE
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Gapan) tel. (044) 4867736
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Lianas Cinema
(Pasig) tel 640.4748
1 THE OMEN 666
2 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 MASAKIT WAG MONG IPILIT
3 THE DESCENT
4 WHORE

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 TUMITIBOK KUMIKIROT
3 PACQUIAO
4 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
5 THE LAKE HOUSE

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 INSIDE MAN
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SCARY MOVIE - 4
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 BAYARAN
2 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Charlie's Chocolate Factory

AMSTERDAM—AMSTERDAM WILL get a theme park dedicated to chocolate and inspired by Roald Dahl's children's book "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," city officials and entrepreneurs said on Thursday.

Just like Dahl's fictional "Chocolate Factory" owned by Willy Wonka, the main part of the "sweets park" will be located underground, in a disused railway tunnel which was handed over by the city of Amsterdam in a ceremony on Thursday.

The theme park, which is expected to open to the public in two to three years, will feature a glass elevator and a chocolate fountain, similar to the book. It will also produce small amounts of chocolate.

To see how the Chocolate Factory will look, click on Impressie on www.dechocoladefabriek.nl. *Reuters*

KID FIT

Disney Channel freebies

Disney Channel subscribers can win one of 20 autographed High School Musical original soundtrack CDs or an autographed High School Musical jacket by watching the encore telecast today at 7:30 p.m.

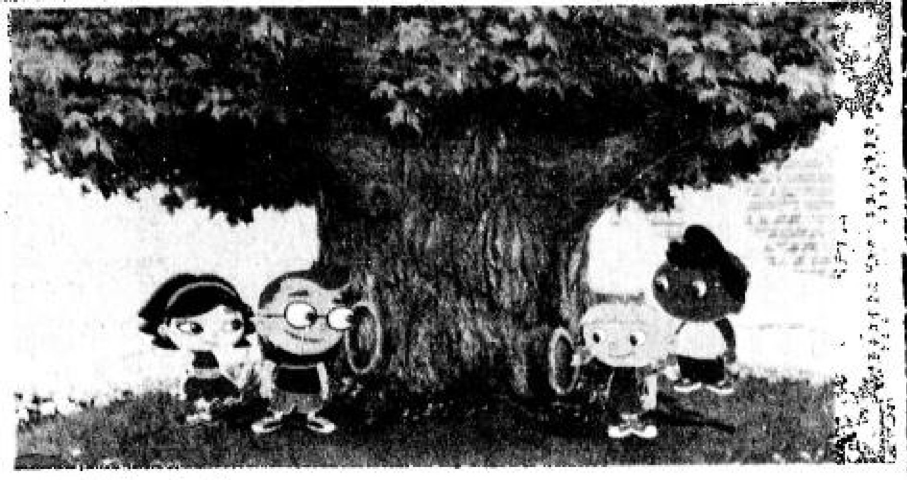
Look out for a question that will be flashed during the TV movie. Log on to www.disneychannel-asia.com and submit your answers, with your name, the name of your cable operator and cable subscription number on or before July 10.

Children below 18 years old must obtain permission from their parents or guardian to join the contest.

Winners will be announced on www.disneychannel-asia.com on July 17.

'Little Einsteins'

Find out how your favorite Playhouse Disney Channel characters first got together, in a special episode of Disney's "Little Einsteins." Screening this July 1, the episode titled "How We Became the Little Einsteins—The True Story" recounts how Leo and the team first reconnected with Rocket and became the Little Einsteins. The show airs at 6:30 p.m.


"LITTLE Einsteins"

'The Ant Bully'

Coming soon in theaters is the family adventure "The Ant Bully," which combines state-of-the-art digital animation with a witty and heartwarming story for children of all ages.

From Academy Award-nominated filmmaker John A. Davis and producers Tom Hanks and Gary Goetzman, the movie tells of poor 10-year-old Lucas Nickle who learns valuable lessons about friendship, compassion, teamwork and loyalty from the ant colony.

The movie is distributed by Warner Bros., a Warner Entertainment Company.

Where's Nick?

Children in Las Piñas Cable subscriber-households want to know: What have you done to Nickelodeon, and when are you bringing it back?

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Prizes can be claimed at the store where the purchase was made. Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash.

Each scratch card also enables the customer to join the raffle for a chance to win 1 of 30 Sony Playstation Portables.

To join the raffle, customers must completely fill out the raffle coupon portion of the card and drop in the drop box located in the store.

Deadline for entries is on July 25, 2006 at 11:59 p.m.

Promo runs in all 7-eleven outlets nationwide from June 14 to July 25, 2006.

Draws will be held in the presence of representatives of DTI and Philippine Seven Corporation at Convenience Distribution, Inc., No. 8001 F. Legaspi St., Brgy. Maybunga, Pasig City, on August 4, 2006 at 3:00 p.m.

Winners will be notified via registered mail from an authorized representative of Philippine Seven Corporation with details on claiming the prize.

Prizes must be claimed within sixty (60) days from date of notification. Unclaimed prizes after the said period will be forfeited.

Employees of PSC (7-eleven) including its franchisees and employees, and Pepsi Cola Products Philippines, their printing and advertising agencies, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.

ENTERTAINMENT

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

KEANU Reeves

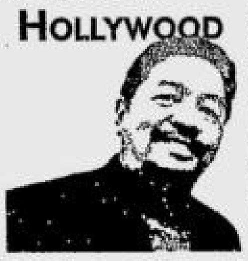
A very private Keanu Reeves, a very triumphant Ellen Marfil

LOS ANGELES—"*PAMBAYAD NG UTANG!*"

That's what "Mga Pusang Gala" ("Stray Cats") director-producer **Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil** said when asked over dinner last Wednesday how she will spend the $10,000 prize she got for winning the Dockers First Feature Award at the recent San Francisco International Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) film festival.

Ellen, a UP alumna and erstwhile Peta (Philippine Educational Theater Association) actress, almost missed accepting her trophy during the awards night. She was planning to leave San Francisco for nearby Oakland after her official stay as a film fest guest ended, when the festival's executive director asked her to stay for the Closing Night party. That was a good omen for the filmmaker behind "Mga Pusang Gala," which stars **Ricky Davao, Irma Adlawan, Reggie Curly, Lauren Novelo** and **Alchris Galura.**

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



Ruben V. Nepales

Small world

We raised glasses of red wine and toasted Ellen twice—for her triumph in the San Francisco film fest, which was celebrating its 30th anniversary (hence the name of this year's event, Frameline30); and for signing up that day in LA with Ariztical Entertainment for the film's international release.

We also cheered how small our world really is. Ellen's brother, **JR Ongkeko**, is married to **Chit Bauzon Ongkeko**, niece of my elementary school teacher in Calasiao, Pangasinan. And now, **Mara Ongkeko**, Ellen's niece and JR and Chit's daughter, is the high school classmate of our youngest daughter, Ella.

Since **Lino Brocka**'s nephew, **Q. Allan Brocka**, won the same award two years ago, Ellen and I couldn't help but reminisce about Lino. We learned that Ellen had a small role in Lino's Peta staging of "Larawan," which we had watched. As a filmmaker, Lino was fast but passionate, according to Ellen, who worked behind the scenes for the late great director.

Very Pinoy

As a person, the late great Filipino filmmaker was "*malambing,*" said Ellen. To this day, she is grateful that Lino wrote a letter of recommendation that made it possible for her to get a scholarship in video production in France.

By coincidence, Ellen and Lino were on the same flight to Paris when she left Manila for the two-month course. Upon landing in France, Ellen teased Lino about why he had a larger suitcase despite the fact that he was going to be in the French capital for only five days. According to Ellen, Lino revealed that he had packed lots of *adobo* in his luggage so he won't miss Pinoy food.

Ellen narrated that one of the San Francisco jurors jokingly told her that with the $10,000 she won, she could make more queer films. She might direct a horror movie next although she has four other movie projects in the slate.

If Ellen was "*bibang-biba*" and in a celebratory mood, **Keanu Reeves** was a different story. Read on.

Still-shy Keanu

In our interview with Keanu Reeves last year for "Constantine," the one lingering image that stayed in our mind to this day was that of the actor seeming to press, with his bare arms, imaginary creases on the tablecloth as he answered journalists' questions. The man appeared shy, uncomfortable with media scrutiny despite many years in the industry, and very private.

Cut to the present—a press con for his two new movies, "The Lake House" and "A Scanner Darkly." Keanu is still just as shy, awkward in the interview format and fiercely protective of his privacy. Of course we like our interview subjects to be loquacious and quotable but we don't expect all actors to be glib and gushing with sound bites. In this regard, we respect and have come to expect Keanu for what he is—a man of few words.

He didn't hesitate to say, "It's none of your business; that's personal," in response to a colleague's persistent line of questioning.

In "The Lake House," a remake of a Korean movie, "Il Mare," Keanu and his "Speed" co-star **Sandra Bullock** are reunited as two lovers who discover that they're actually living two years apart. They must try to solve the mystery to save their extraordinary romance.

Live to animation

Keanu's other new movie, "A Scanner Darkly," is interesting because it was shot as a live action and then transformed into an animated film using a technology known as "interpolated rotoscoping." Set in the future, Keanu plays an undercover cop whose assignment to spy on his friends launches him on a paranoid journey into the absurd.

Also populating the dark work of "Scanner" are **Robert Downey Jr., Winona Ryder** and **Woody Harrelson.**

The two movies are as different as night and day. Keanu, dressed in his favorite getup of black tee, jacket and pants, spelled it out: "'The Lake House' is a love story. 'A Scanner Darkly' is a comedy and a tragedy. I don't think of these works as being science fiction or fantastical. I think they're very human stories."

Asked if he sees a parallel in the story of "Scanner" and what's going on in the US, where the government has admitted that it is spying on "suspicious" phone conversations, he replied, "I don't think it's just the United States. I would say all cities around the world have to come up against this technology about surveillance. I think about how it's used and abused. The thing that seems to be happening is that there's just no redress. No one's watching the keeper of the information and protesting about the loss of personal rights. The powers of the entities that control information seem to be increasing while the individual's rights are diminishing."

In touch with Sandra

Of Sandra, he revealed this much: "Sandra and I have kept in touch over the years. We've had some dinners. She's written me some letters

A VERY PRIVATE/ A3-2

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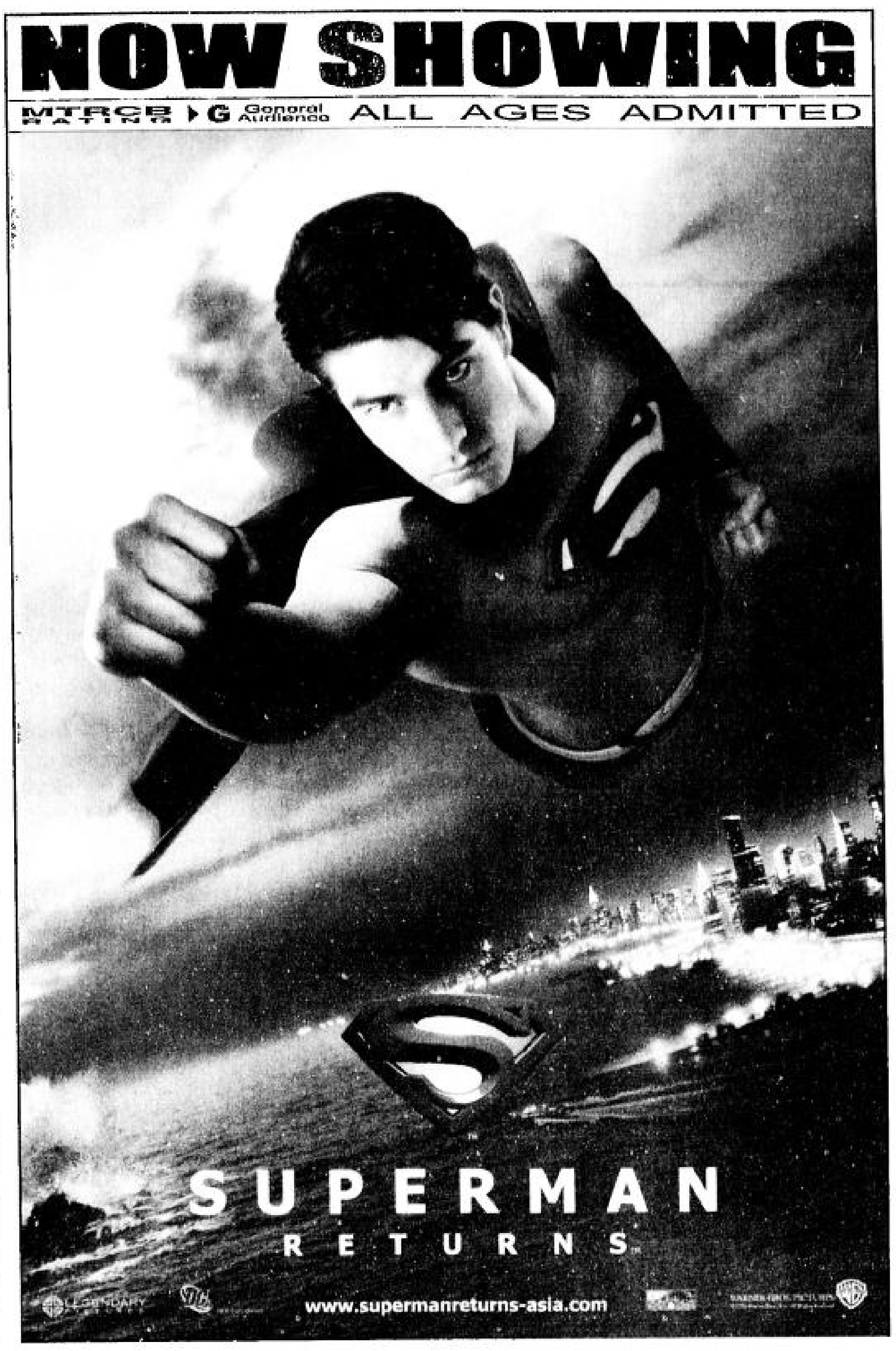
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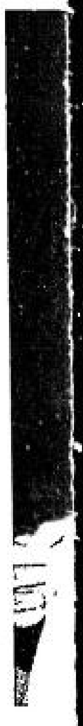

DIRECTOR-PRODUCER Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil (far right) takes home the Dockers $10,000 First Feature Award for "Mga Pusang Gala" at Frameline film fest in San Francisco, which is celebrating its 30th year. The festival ran on the theme, "XXX: 30 years of revolutionary film." Photo shows Ellen with friends in the Bay Area and Gay Pride celebrators.

A very Keanu R

From page A3-1

when I was in Australia workin

An avid reader, Keanu was n reading fare. "I just finished which was really good becaus '50s to the '90s," he said. "It w of cultural view of America, wh of counter culture. I am start Greene novel. I've also been re

When a reporter asked whe he was now in his 40s (he turn sponded with, "Who knows" added, "I'd like to [settle dow haven't done."

E-mail the columnist at rvncp

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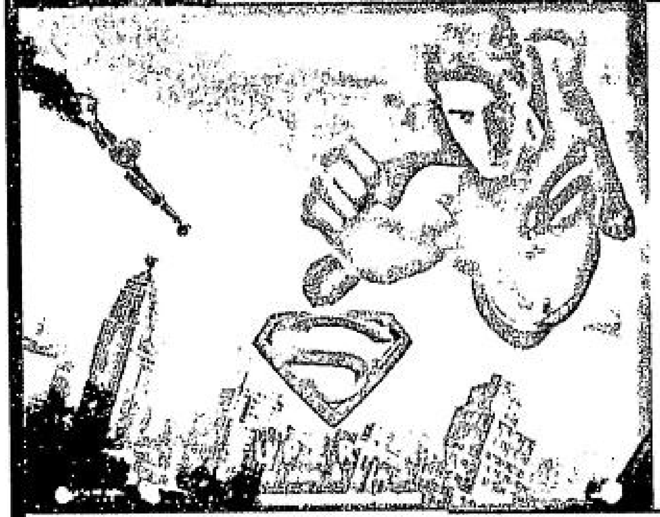
AT THE CINEMAS

Reserve your tickets by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729 7777

THX

G1	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS	3 SCARY MOVIE 4	4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
G4	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS	3 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	
	4 THE LAKE HOUSE	5 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS: TOKYO DRIFT	6 SUPERMAN RETURNS	7 SUPERMAN RETURNS
GB1	1 KINSEY	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS		
GB3	1 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:55, 4:10, 7:25, 10:40 GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS 1:35, 4:50, 8:05, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS		
	3 SUPERMAN RETURNS 11:00, 2:15, 5:30, 8:45, 12:00 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 SUPERMAN RETURNS 11:36, 2:50, 8:05, 9:20 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 10:00 GUARANTEED SEATS	
ATC	1 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS		
	3 SUPERMAN RETURNS	4 THE LAKE HOUSE	5 SUPERMAN RETURNS	
ACC	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS	3 THE LAKE HOUSE	4 SCARY MOVIE 4
M2	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 SCARY MOVIE 4		
	3 THE LAKE HOUSE	4 SUPERMAN RETURNS	5 SUPERMAN RETURNS	



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shy
eeves

: on a film."

ore forthright with his current Timothy Leary's biography, it covers the period from the s interesting to have that kind it happened through the years ng to read another **Graham** ding (F. Scott) **Fitzgerald.**"

n was he settling down, since 42 in September), Keanu re- No comment." But then he n|—it's certainly something I

les@yahoo.com.

anchez

be Bo show

VANGELIST AND TELEVI- ersonality Bo Sanchez cele- his 40th birthday with a dy concert" titled "BoToks" Meralco Theater on July 8, and 7 p.m.

ough the concert, Bo hopes e P3 million for his ministry -the Anawim Scholarship or poor children, the Keryg- awad Kalinga Village in lban, and He Cares Foun- for Street Kids, among

ed why he is comedy, lies: "To people I want to e how fun it is live."

SHOW TIME

details, visit www.bo- z.com/botoks. Or call 62. Tickets are at P1,000.

at Onstage

David topbills a one-night t billed "Mon David-Jazz lore" at OnStage, Greenbelt ti, on July 8.

n, who won the grand prize First London International Competition for Vocalists, accompanied by musical r and first keyboard player Lopez, Colby de la Calzada s, Koko Bermejo on drums, Guevarra on sax and Noel Santiago on guitars ey Quirino on second key- Special guest is Bituin Es-

ets are available at Ticket- outlets at 8919999.

ben Laurente with Leo , Bituin Escalante, JM Ro- z and Calvin Millado at the Main Theater for the pine Obstetrical Society's Anniversary

xroom Musical Caravan rik Santos, Frenchie Dy, lores, K and the Boxers ufa Mae Quinto in Marbel

R-rated trailers during G-rated screenings

FEEDBACK

From Francis Lorenzo (franc-slorenzo@yahoo.com), La Vista, Quezon City:

I am a concerned father who wants to comment on the enforcement of one MTRCB regulation.

I brought my kids to the movie house to see "Over the Hedge," an animated feature rated G. To my surprise the theater showed commercials and trailers that were rated R.

My 3-year-old was upset, and we had to leave the theater.

I complained to the management, but was told it was an isolated case.

Since then, my child has refused to watch animated movies in a theater.

I am ashamed that I was part of this traumatic experience for my child.

I hope you can investigate this matter. I trust that your media institution can push government to act on this.

If I were in the US, I probably could have filed charges for the way the incident affected my kid, and for the failure of the MTCRB to carry out its madate.

But since I live here, I guess I can only hope for change.

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2 SUPERMAN RETURNS 11:30, 2:45, 6:10, 9:45 G
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:10, 3:40, 7:00, 10:30 G
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS 2:10, 5:35, 9:00 G

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CINEMA 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:20, 3:30, 6:40 9:50 GP
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PROMENADE
GREENHILLS
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 3 SUPERMAN RETURNS 11:40, 2:50, 5:55 9:05 GP
CINEMA 4 SUPERMAN RETURNS 10:10, 1:15, 4:25 7:35, 10:45 GP
CINEMA 5 SUPERMAN RETURNS 10:35, 1:40, 4:45 7:50, 10:55 GP
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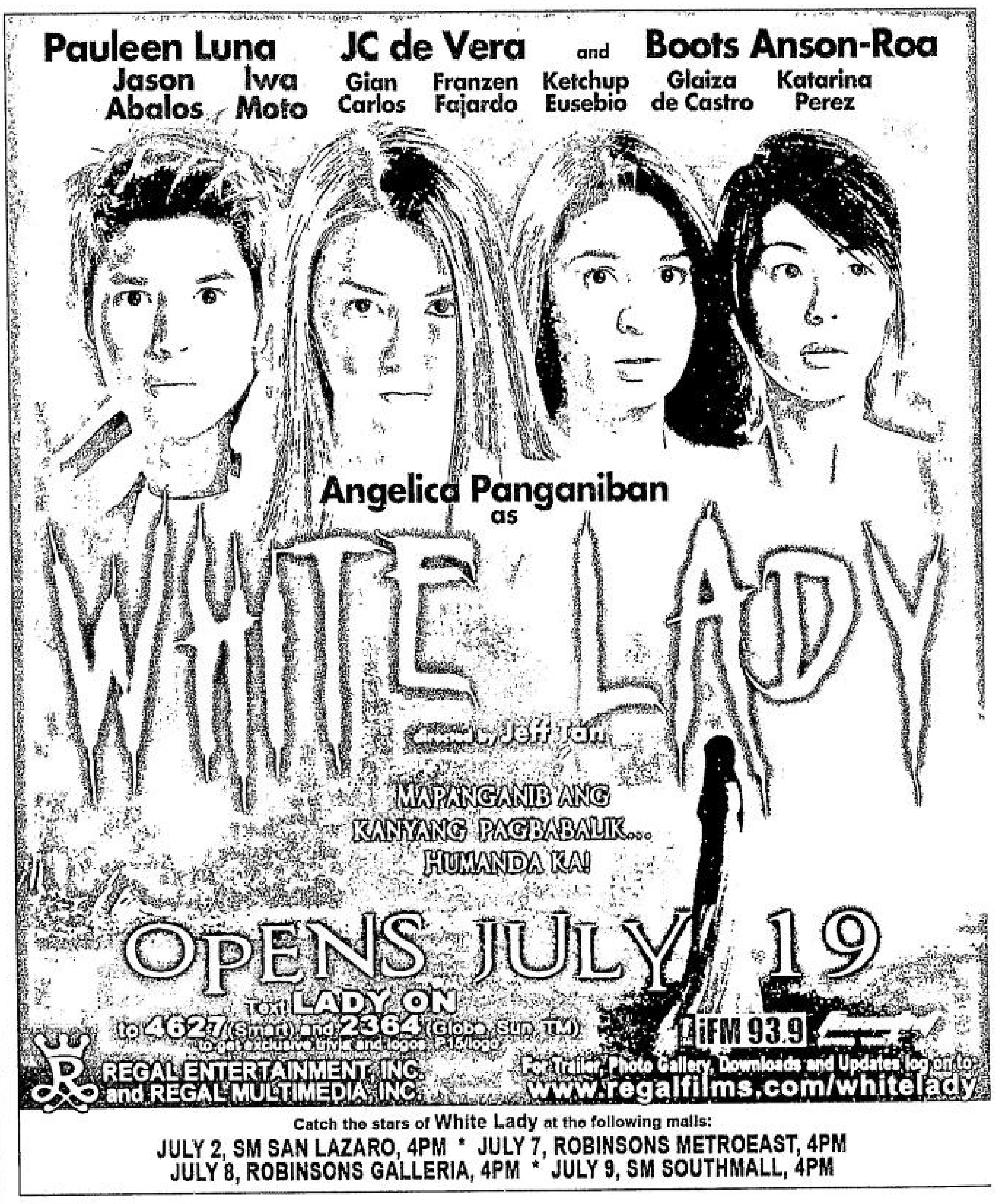

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Jason Abalos Iwa Moto Gian Carlos Franzen Fajardo Ketchup Eusebio Glaiza de Castro Katarina Perez
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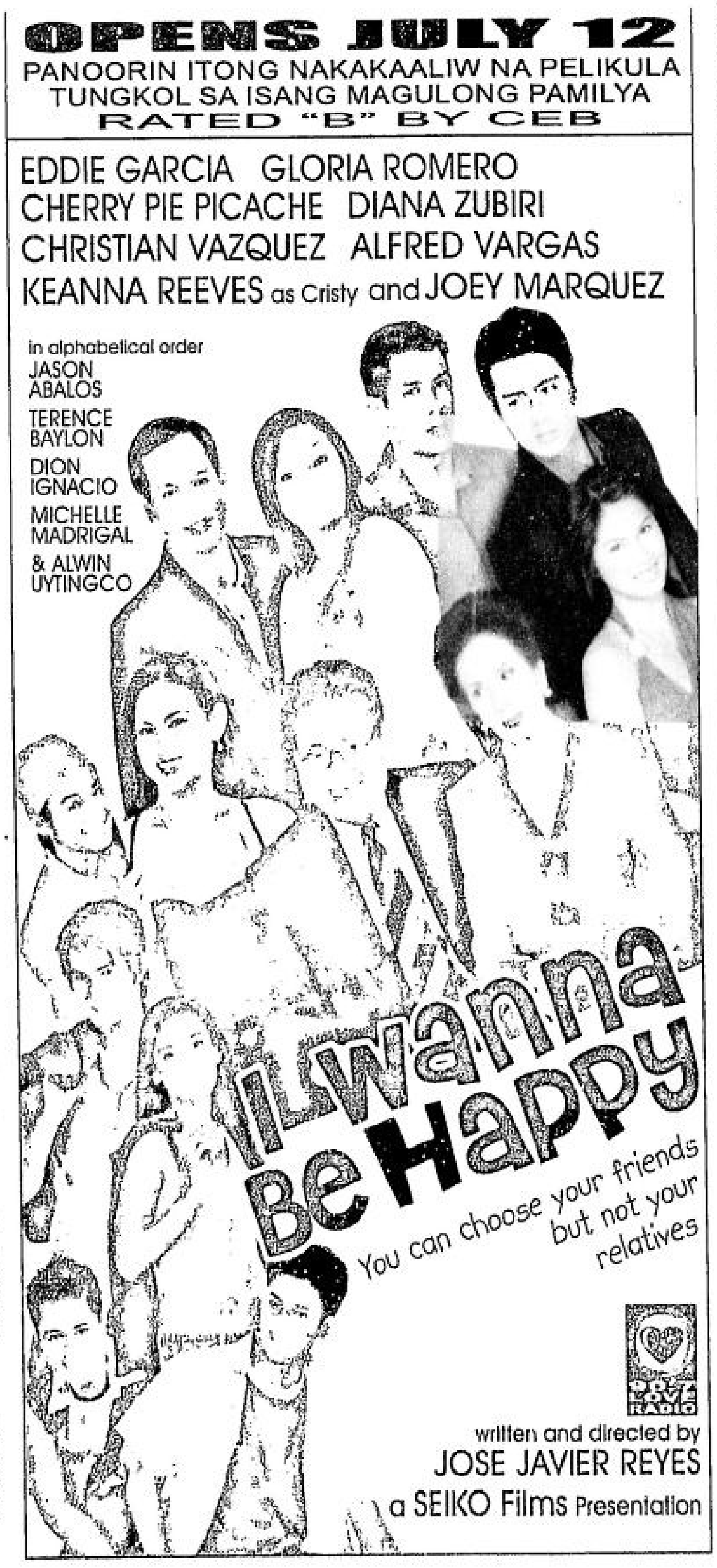

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CHERRY PIE PICACHE DIANA ZUBIRI
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KEANNA REEVES as Cristy and JOEY MARQUEZ
in alphabetical order
JASON ABALOS
TERENCE BAYLON
DION IGNACIO
MICHELLE MADRIGAL
& ALWIN UYTINGCO
I Wanna Be Happy
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LOVE RADIO
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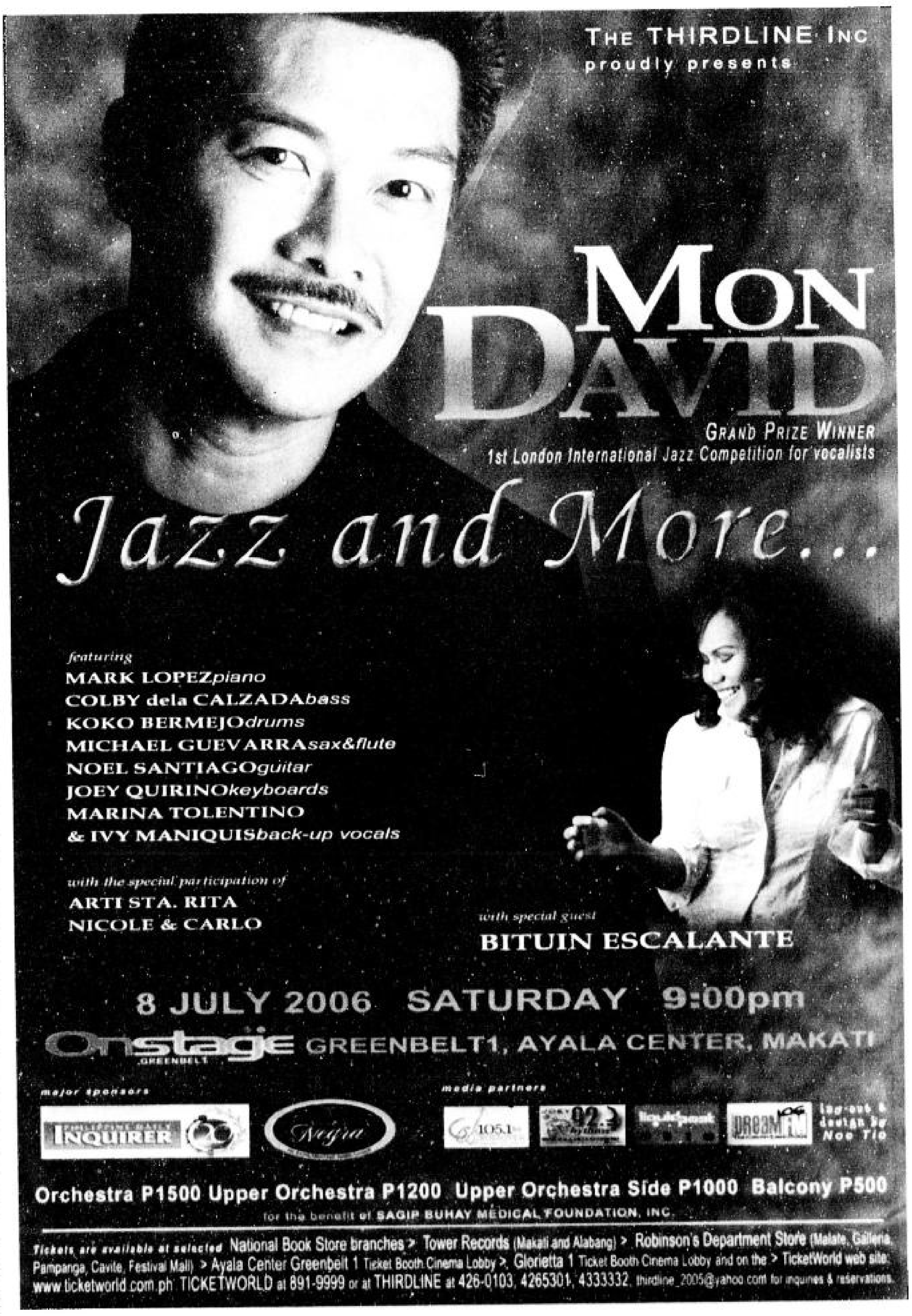

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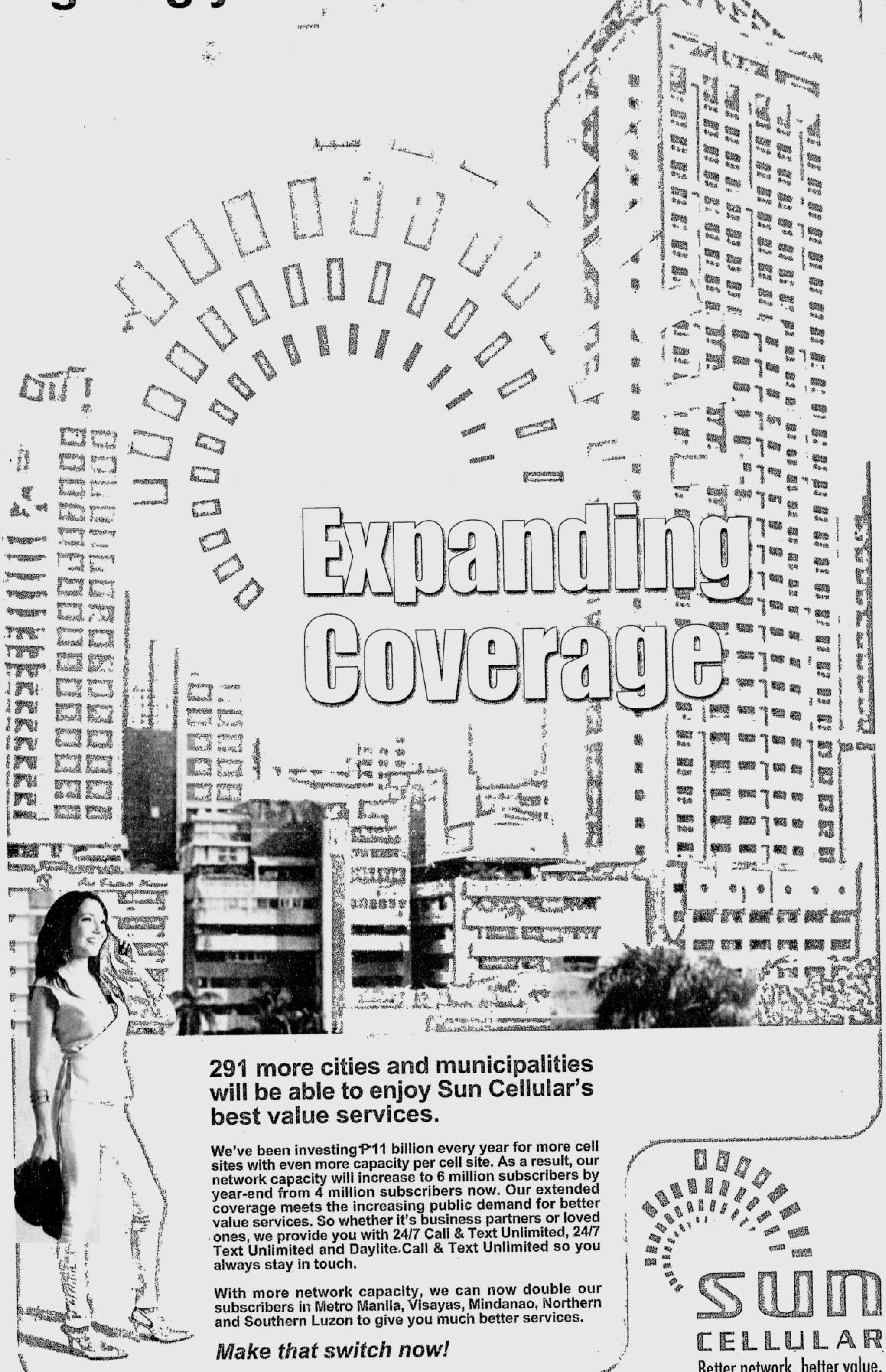

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Arnold welcomes Korina's return to late-night news

By Nini Valera

THE LATE NIGHT news will be more interesting with the return of Korina Sanchez.

GMA 7 news anchor Arnold Clavio made this statement in reference to ABS-CBN's news program "Bandila," co-anchored by Sanchez, which premieres tomorrow. "Bandila" airs 30 minutes earlier than rival GMA news program "Saksi."

This does not faze Clavio, recently named Best Broadcast Journalist of the Year (2005) by the Rotary Club of Manila.

"People will be curious about Korina's return as a news person," he said.

ARNOLD Clavio, a.k.a. Igan

Confident

But Clavio was confident that "Saksi" would retain its audience share. Based on the latest Metro Manila households survey by AGB Nielsen Media Research (the "largest provider of TV audience measurement services in the world," according to its Web site), "Saksi" has topped ABS-CBN's news program "Insider," which "Bandila" is replacing.

Clavio described "Saksi's" content and approach as "straightforward news reporting." He explained: "The producers look at all the angles first, so that we always air the total picture."

In a personality-driven news room scenario, Clavio, 40, has managed to stay "small," vis a vis the bigness of the stories he tells. For him, the news is the main thing, not the one who delivers it. This low-profile stance has apparently helped him remain afloat in the highly competitive arena that is news gathering.

"I just do my job," was how he put it—even if this job sometimes requires him to risk his life.

In 1994, the station sent Clavio to cover the hostage-taking of teachers by the Abu Sayyaf. Faced with danger at every turn, Clavio managed to gain entry into the Abu Sayyaf lair for the biggest scoop of his life. He was only 28.

How far would he go to get the news?

Death threats

"As far as I have to go," said Clavio. He didn't look for situations that would endanger his life, he pointed out, "but somehow, they come to me."

Indeed, news seems to have a way of finding Clavio.

In July last year, the "Hello, Garci" tapes—dubbed "mother of all tapes"— fell in his lap. He recalled that then NBI Assistant Director Samuel Ong contacted him when Ong was ready to to turn over the tapes. Clavio broke the news, which triggered the biggest controversy in the Arroyo government.

Death threats, too, have become part of

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GINA PAREÑO

JOJI ALONSO

Int'l paparazzi eye RP actress

By Marinel R. Cruz

ACTRESS GINA PAREño, director Jeffrey Jeturian and lawyer-film producer Joji Alonso—in Russia as representatives of "Kubrador (the Bet Collector)" in this year's Moscow International Film Festival—were the stars of an international press conference following the movie's screening on June 27.

"Kubrador," produced by MLR Films, is competing for Best Picture against 16 other entries from France, Germany, Poland, Sweden, Italy, Israel and Japan, among others. The festival, which opened on June 23, ends today.

"It went really well," Alonso, in a text message to INQUIRER Entertainment, said of the press con. "The media and critics raved about the film and Gina. *Ang dami na n'yang* paparazzi (sic)."

JEFFREY Jeturian

Gina is competing for the Best Actress Award with British actress Julie Walters and Hollywood's Monica Belluci and Salma Hayek.

Alonso said questions about Gina's acting background were asked during the conference. "They were also interested in finding out how we plan to recoup the [money] we had shelled out [for 'Kubrador'], since it's not a commercial film."

The producer described the festival opening ceremony as "a simple blue carpet event." She said Pareño wore a blue terno "and looked exquisite."

During the rites, Alonso reported, the selection committee announced that it was abiding by "the principles of cultures, variety of names, genres and ideas."

The Philippine delegation is scheduled to return on July 5.

"For fun, we all went sightseeing," the producer said. "We visited places like the Red Square, Arbat, Kremlin, St. Pettersburg and Hermitage."

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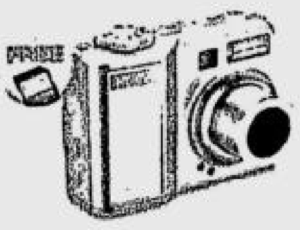

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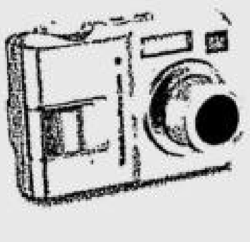

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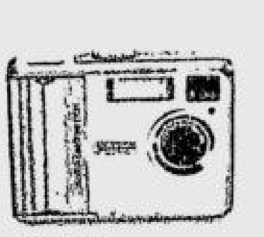

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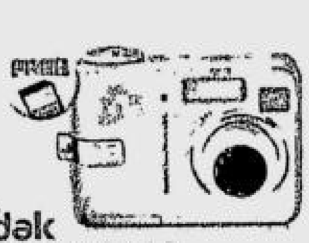

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How to join? E-mail you answers together with your name, address, age and contact number to movieaddicts_smcinema@yahoo.com or send this page together with your particulars at your nearest SM Cinema branch. All answers must be correct in order to qualify. Multiple entries received will only be counted as a single entry. Deadline for submission of entries in on July 12, 2006.

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SCARY MOVIE 4
THE NUN
FAST AND FURIOUS

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CINEMA 2
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SUPERMAN RETURNS

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4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
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5 SUPERMAN RETURNS
12:00 3:10 6:20 9:30
6 THE NUN
12:25
7 LAKE HOUSE
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8 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
9 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2:40 5:50 9:00
10 SCARY MOVIE 4
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ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:30 3:45 7:00 10:10
2 AN AMERICAN HAUNTING
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3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
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4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
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5 SUPERMAN RETURNS
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6 SCARY MOVIE 4 11:30 1:15 3:00
THE NUN 5:10 7:30 9:50
7 LAKE HOUSE 11:20 1:10 3:00
THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3 5:30 7:30 10:00

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1 SCARY MOVIE 4
1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
10:30 2:00 5:30 9:00
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2:00 5:30 9:00
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
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5 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
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7 SUPERMAN RETURNS
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8 LAKE HOUSE
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5 SCARY MOVIE 4

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'susper

Can the censors
Superman's flig
theater?

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

THE MOVIE AND TEL
Classification Board (MTRC
Theater in the SM Mall of Asi
If it pushes through, the s
man Returns" screenings in t
In a memo dated June 22.
"Marissa" Laguardia recounted
"Nascar 3D" and "Everest" "wi
May.
Laguardia's letter was addres
president of SM Leisure Inc.
In the memo, Laguardia took
Imax theater manager Janette
'special arrangement' between
gan."
"That claim is… preposterous
ed as a criminal act," Laguardia
She pointed out another in
"limiting the number of MTRCB
ed not] as they please but in
[row]."
Thus, the MTRCB "suspend
tive immediately."
In a phone interview with In
day, Camaligan said the "Nasc
an old offense "for which we've
Deriada's offense was a "case
ligan said. As for limited seats f
"Imax tickets are pre-sold. In t
booked [solid] for the next two
On Thursday, SM obtained a
from a Pasay City court, so that
continue despite the suspension
"We've sold over 25,000 ticke
perman," Camaligan related. "A
of about] P9 million."
According to Francis Soliver
Bros. Philippines ("Superman
P855,430 on its first day. He a
P21.76 million nationwide—th
2006 so far."
Camaligan said SM request
fect after the first two weeks.
selling tickets."
The MTRCB didn't agree, h
court.
The first hearing was held
Trial Court, Branch 114, under
ing to Laguardia and Camalig
cide [tomorrow] whether
days."

TV's Lois
have retu

SANTA MONICA, CALIF
Jack Larson, the actor
Jimmy Olsen on the 1
Superman" have bit pa
Neill as a dying heiress.
"Superman Return
Singer grew up a fan
which starred the late
as the Man of Steel. W
time to do his own
made sure to have
comrades on hand.
Neill, 85, joked in
view with The Associated
"They said, 'Well, we
said, 'I know, you wa
'But we have a part f
your name is Gertrud
fine. Only she's dying.
Larson, 73, was cast
posite Brandon Routh
man, and the new Jim
"(Singer) promised
film," said Larson. "I
(where the segment
cutting-room floor, bu
cides to be Superman

Arnold wel

From page A4-1

Clavio's life. He refuse
where they studied.
But 20 years of cove
Clavio. He retains his w
mor. He is the only broa
cot, Arn-Arn, seen with
adopted a moniker, Ig
called by friends, news
stop him for occasional

No slowing down

"I never get away," h
cops call me Igan and
speeding because I am
Obviously, there is n
keeps one of the mean
sion. His day starts w
"Saksi." In between, th
radio commentary show
foundation which he ru
Asked why he is driv
I get weak if I'm not wo
News, after all, is a 2

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nax
nded'

stop
nt in the 3-D

VISION REVIEW AND
) has suspended the Imax

ispension will stop "Super-
e 3-D theater.
MTRCB chair Ma. Consoliza
that Imax exhibited the films
hout the required permits" in

ed to Ric Camaligan, first vice

exception to the "allegation of
)eriada that there had been a
he MTRCB chair and Camali-

...and in itself may be regard-
vrote in the memo.
ingement, the Imax policy of
deputies to four ... [to be seat-
designated seats in the front

l [Imax] for three days, effec-

UIRER Entertainment on Thurs-
r 3D" and "Everest" issue was
already been penalized."
of miscommunication," Cama-
r the deputies, he pointed out,
ct, 'Superman' screenings are
weeks."
Temporary Restraining Order
"Superman" screenings could

s for the first two weeks of 'Su-
P350 per ticket, that's [a total

. general manager of Warner
'- distributor), Imax posted
ided that "Superman" earned
"biggest opening-day figure in

for the suspension to take ef-
'Ve [even] volunteered to stop

said, so SM took the case to

: Friday, at the Pasay Regional
udge Edwin Ramirez. Accord-
"The court [said it would] de-
ot to extend the TRO to 20

& Jimmy rned, too

NIA—NOEL NEILL AND
o played Lois Lane and
TV show "Adventures of
n "Superman Returns"—
son as a bartender.
rector Bryan
ne TV show,
rge Reeves
came
Singer
es' old
inter-
Press:
have you as Lois Lane.' I
younger one.' They said,
with Kevin Spacey, and
's a rich widow, which is

bartender in a scene op-
plays Clark Kent/Super-
lsen, Sam Huntington.
couldn't be cut out of the
want to go to Australia
hot) and end up on the
is the scene where he de-
."
AP

CHEER FACTOR

comes ...

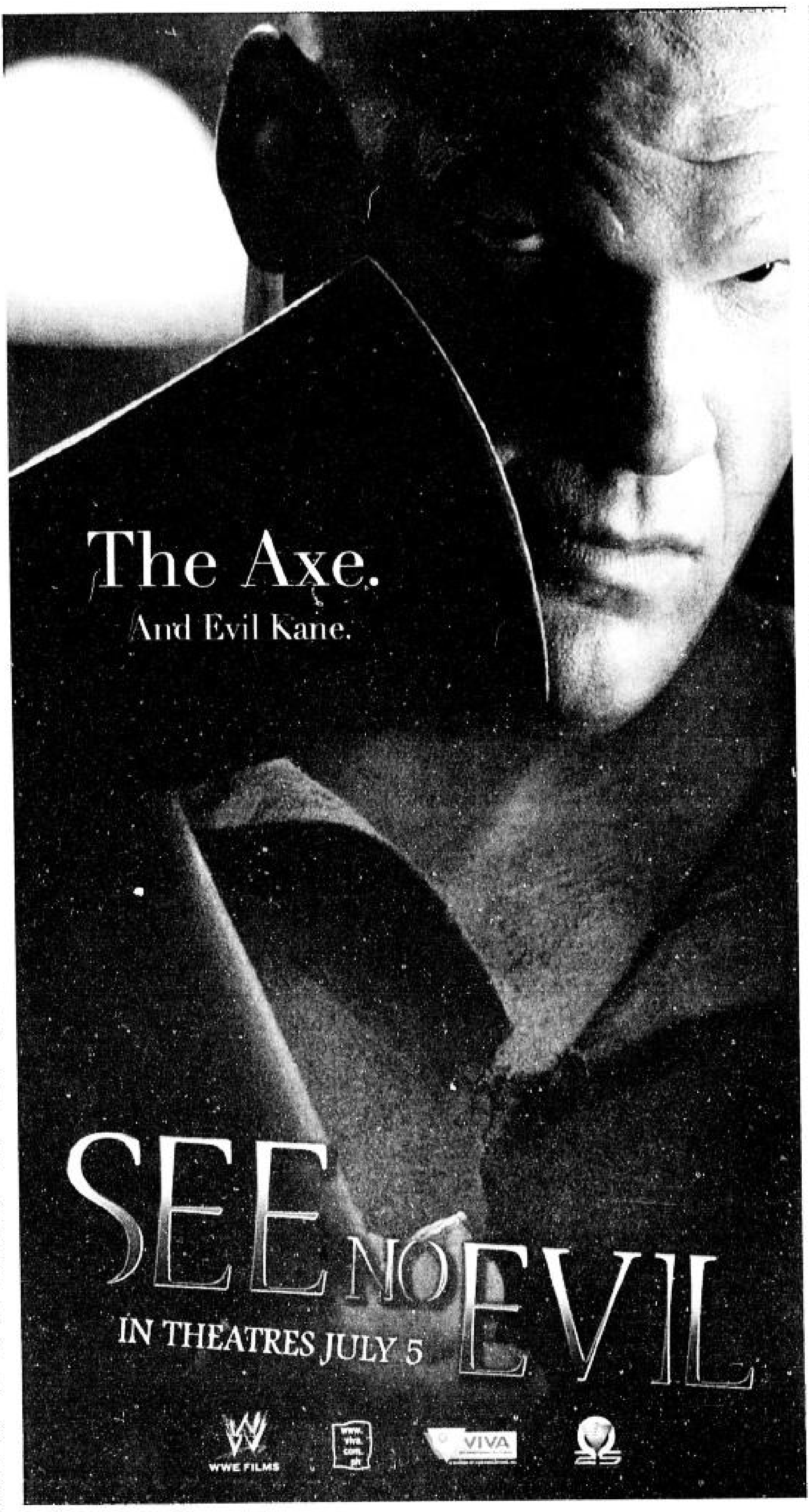
divulge his kids' names or

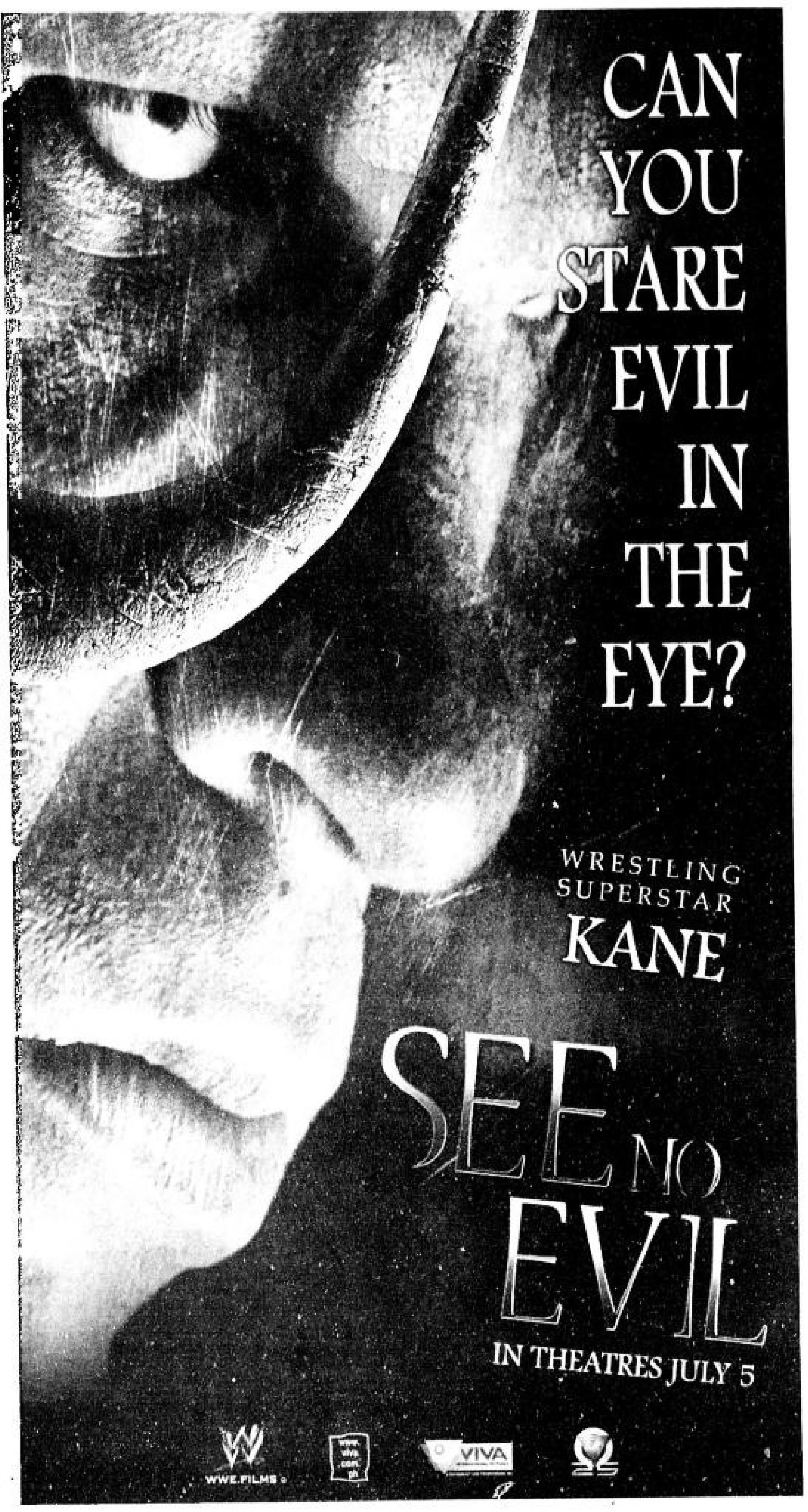
ard news has not hardened
class values and street hu-
ournalist with his own mas-
"Unang Hirit." He has also
end), which is how he is
s and even policemen who
violations.

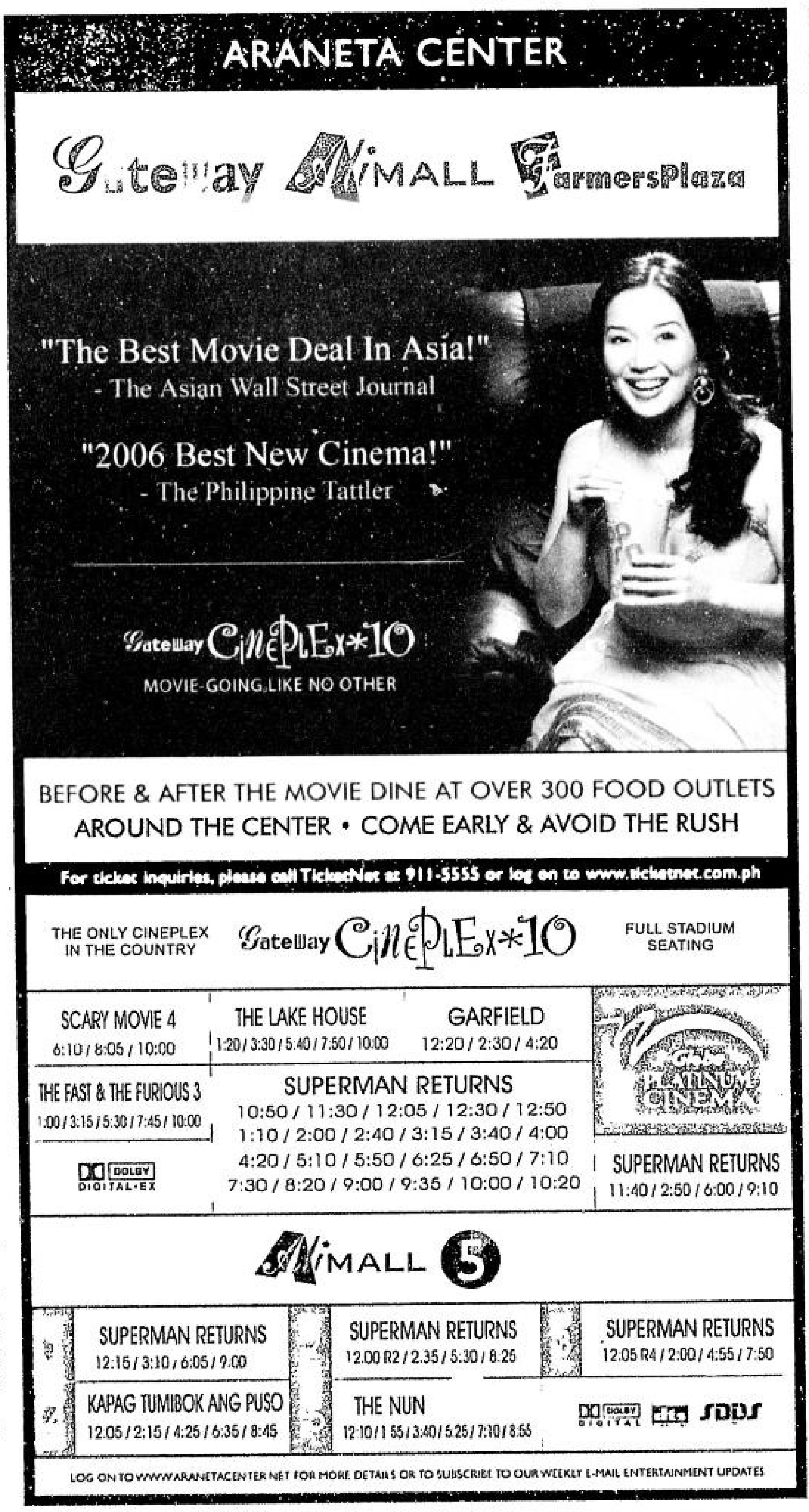
"I [always] pay a fine. But
nce to me. They catch me
rushing somewhere."
ng down for Claviom who
edules in Philippine televi-
nang Hirit" and ends with
obol A sa Dobol B," DZBB's
newspaper columns and a

imply said, "I need to work.

air.



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GARFIELD
12:20 / 2:30 / 4:20
THE FAST & THE FURIOUS 3
1:00 / 3:15 / 5:30 / 7:45 / 10:00
SUPERMAN RETURNS
10:50 / 11:30 / 12:05 / 12:30 / 12:50
1:10 / 2:00 / 2:40 / 3:15 / 3:40 / 4:00
4:20 / 5:10 / 5:50 / 6:25 / 6:50 / 7:10
7:30 / 8:20 / 9:00 / 9:35 / 10:00 / 10:20
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
PLATINUM CINEMA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
11:40 / 2:50 / 6:00 / 9:10
Ali MALL 5
SUPERMAN RETURNS
12:15 / 3:10 / 6:05 / 9:00
SUPERMAN RETURNS
12:00 R2 / 2:35 / 5:30 / 8:25
SUPERMAN RETURNS
12:05 R4 / 2:00 / 4:55 / 7:50
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
12:05 / 2:15 / 4:25 / 6:35 / 8:45
THE NUN
12:10 / 1:55 / 3:40 / 5:25 / 7:10 / 8:55
DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS
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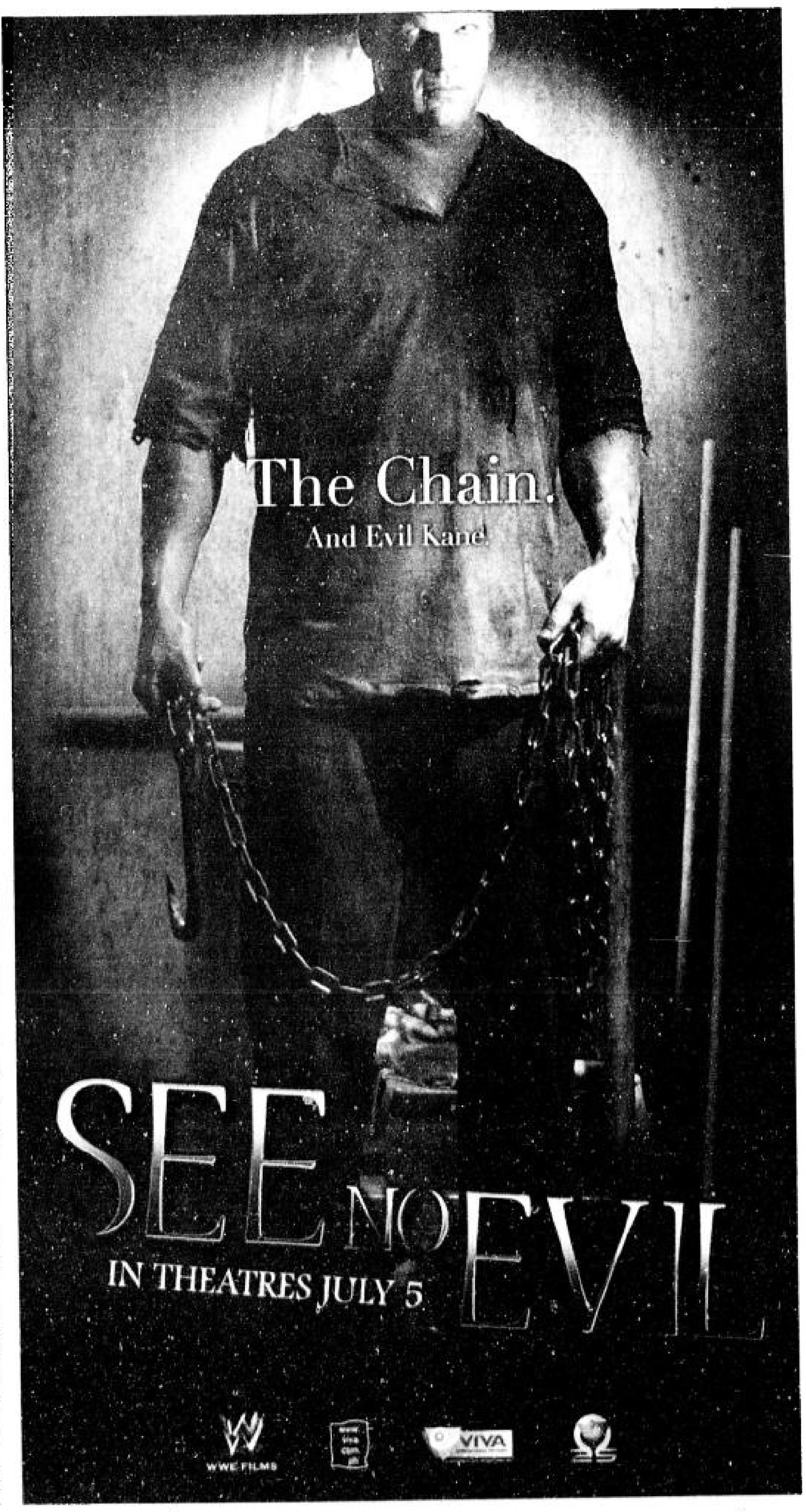

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House-hunting heartthrobs

RUSHES

PILITA Corrales

KEANNA Reeves

THESE LOOK-ALIKE HEARTTHROBS ARE reportedly house-hunting. Why do they want to be housemates?

Are you on drugs?

John Prats has a question for rumor-mongers who say he dated comedian Ai-Ai de las Alas: "Addict *ba kayo?*"

Rustom's baby

Keana Reeves was heard on television announcing that she would like to have Rustom Padilla's baby.

She didn't say how.

News 'divas'

ABS-CBN chair Gabby Lopez calls Maria Ressa, Luchi Cruz-Valdez and Charie Villa his "news divas" because, he says, "They're divas-tating."

Please, not yet

Pilita Corrales reportedly got spooked when the Davao-bound plane she took on June 25 experienced turbulence and dipped twice.

A witness said the singer grabbed the arm of her seat mate, saying, "Ryan [Cayabyab], I don't want to go yet. I don't want to go yet."

'Awit' tonight

Regine Velasquez sang a medley of Gary Valenciano and Martin Nievera hits during the last recent 19th Awit Awards. Watch the telecast on MTV tonight at 8.

TOMMY Lee

A bedtime story

M. Night Shyamalan says his "Lady in the Water" began as an impromptu bedtime story he invented for his two young daughters. "The way I tell stories to my kids is very freeform—whatever pops into my head and comes out of my mouth," he says.

One night, what came out was, "Do you know that someone lives under our pool?"

Night continues: "It developed into this kind of odyssey. There was something ... that made me want to tell it every night, and keep it going."

The girls have not slept since. Kidding.

M. NIGHT Shyamalan and Paul Giamatti, star of "Lady in the Water"

Welcome Supernova

Motley Crue's Tommy Lee. Guns 'n' Roses' Gilby Clarke. Metallica's Jason Newsted—three rock legends, giants of their time, looking for a lead singer via a worldwide search.

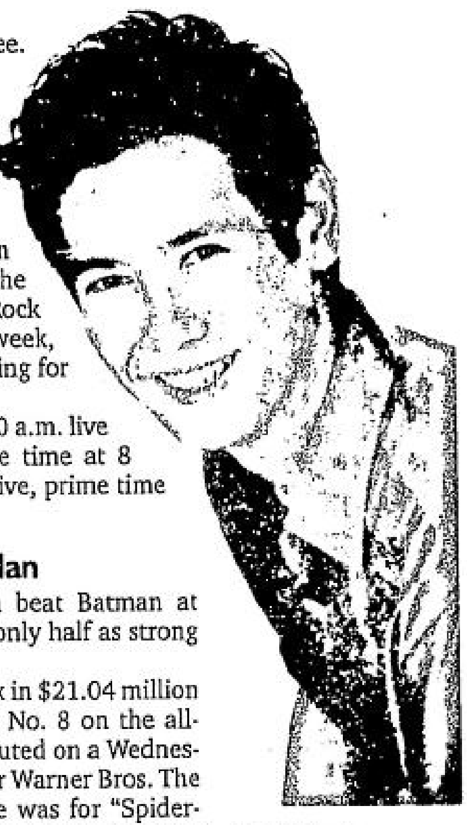
"Rock Star: Supernova" on Star World comes hot in the heels of last year's hit, "Rock Star: INXS" starting this week, with 15 contestants competing for 13 weeks.

A two-part debut airs 7:30 a.m. live on Thursday, July 6, prime time at 8 p.m.; and July 7 at 9 a.m. live, prime time at 9 p.m.

Superman vs Spider-Man

Los Angeles—Superman beat Batman at the box office. But he was only half as strong as Spider-Man.

"Superman Returns" took in $21.04 million on opening day, making it No. 8 on the all-time list of movies that debuted on a Wednesday, according to distributor Warner Bros. The No. 1 Wednesday premiere was for "Spider-Man 2," which took in $40.4 million in its first day just before the Fourth of July holiday in 2004. In Manila, "Superman Returns" opened Wednesday with a nationwide gross of P21.76 million, according to Francis Soliven, Warner Bros. Philippines general manager.


JOHN Prats

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Michael de Mesa, Jaclyn Jose
@ 5:30p.m, July 3

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by Cesar Evangelista Buendia

MAGNIFICO
by Maryo J. de los Reyes

MGA MUNTING TINIG
by Gil Portes

ANAK
by Rory Quintos

ABAKADA INA
by Eddie Garcia

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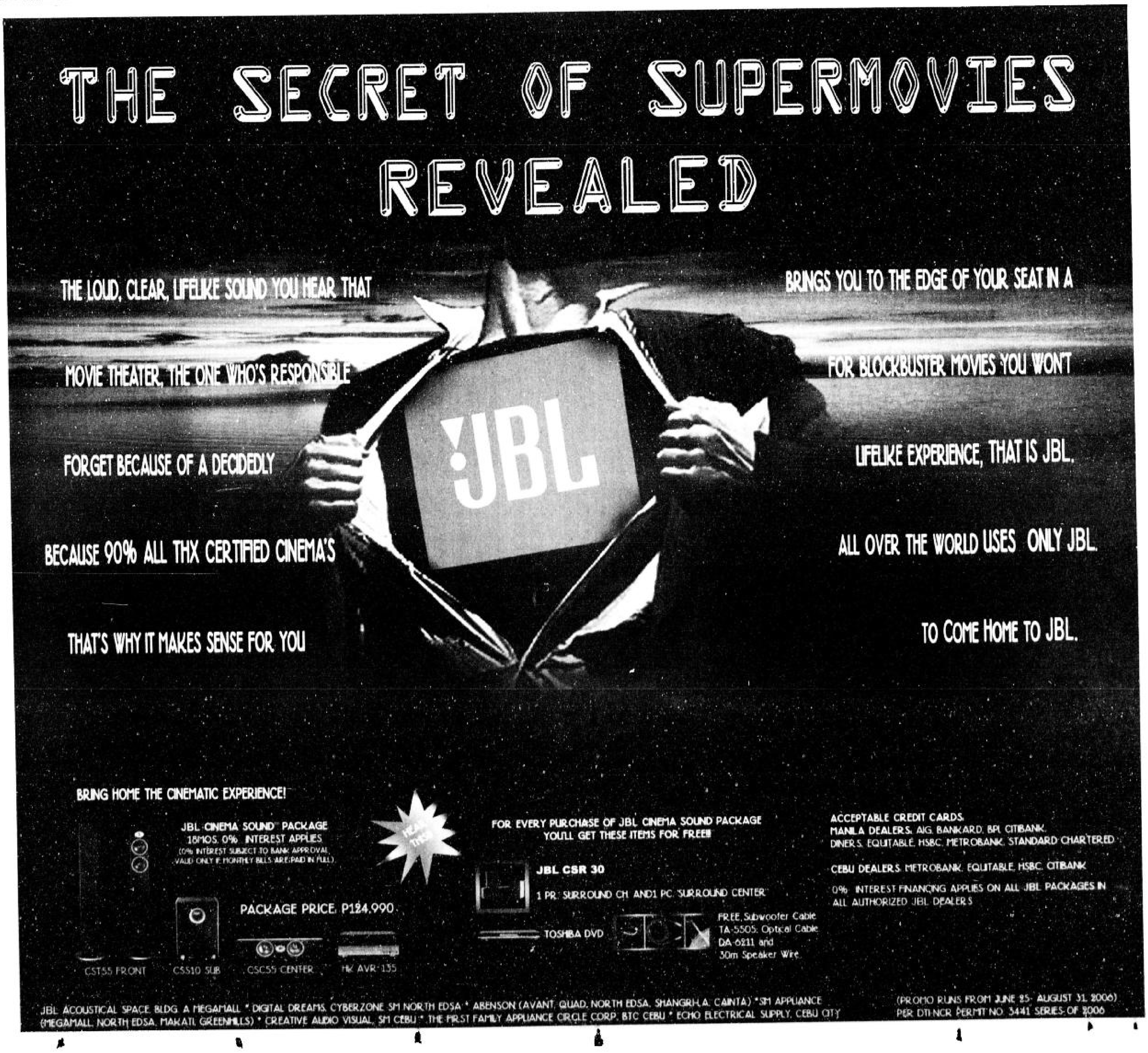
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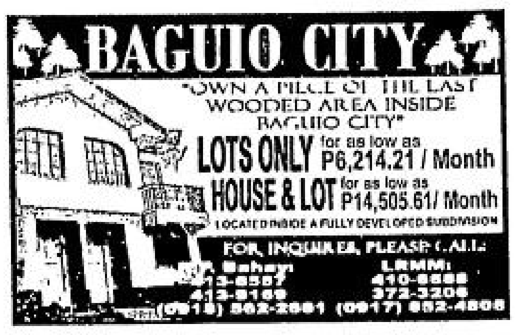

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Economics of flying high with *butterflies*

By Frank Cimatu
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

VIGAN CITY—ATLEY CHAMOK DELICATELY unwraps dozens of triangle-shaped papers containing common egg fly butterfly species from Marinduque. The butterflies, with black wings and huge blue and white spots, were momentarily dazed as Chamok transferred them to a plate of cotton soaked with honey.

"The butterflies have to be brought out within two days or else they will all die," Chamok says.

Getting these butterflies from the island province on the other side of Luzon is only one of the few hazards of the butterfly trade.

Chamok's employer, Macky Maceda, says one should be willing to shell out from P500,000 to P1 million to get hundreds of butterflies into a park.

Reliving that elusive childhood memory of having butterflies resting on one's hand is indeed expensive, says Maceda, who is engaged in establishing butterfly parks all over the country.

He owns the Boracay Butterfly Farm at the Boracay Regency Beach Resort near Boat Station 2 in the island resort. He manages the Camp John Hay butterfly sanctuary in Baguio City and is now finishing Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson's butterfly house in the governor's "Baluarte" compound here.

Maceda says the butterfly industry is a sunrise industry and he is establishing his niche in building butterfly farms.

"Butterfly houses are very popular in Europe and I hope the Philippines would catch up," he says.

Marinduque's breeders have cornered about 85 percent of the country's butterfly and pupa exports.

Many of these are bought to refurbish the butterfly houses in England, Spain, The Netherlands and the United States, Maceda says.

But the local demand is equally important, he adds.

Other than the butterfly houses, he says he also supplies butterflies in wedding receptions.

"We don't know if bird flu has something to do with it but releasing butterflies instead of doves has become the recent rage. It all started with the wedding of [actors] Sunshine Cruz and Cesar Montano," he says.

The favorite butterfly species released by couples and their guests is the woodnymph.

Maceda says a woodnymph costs P60.

A good thing about butterflies is that the dead don't go to waste. Maceda would have them framed individually or in tandem.

Maceda is an environmental engineer affiliated with the Fil-Estate Group in 2001 when he chanced upon an article on the butterfly breeders of Marinduque in a business magazine.

He researched on the butterfly industry and decided to stick it out in butterfly houses.

He says the Camp John Hay butterfly sanctuary, which charges P40 per person, is the most lucrative, followed by the Boracay Butterfly Farm, which charges P60.

Singson decided to open his butterfly house for free.

Maceda says an owner does not need to fill up a cage with butterflies.

"The rule of thumb is one butterfly per square foot," he says.

So there could be as many as 200 to 300 in an average butterfly house.

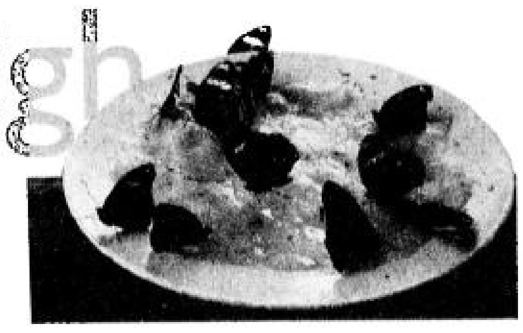
Although the Philippines has the most number of butterfly species in the world, Maceda says breeders like him only have eight to nine breeds that could be conveniently exported.

These are the woodnymph, egg fly, common mormon, clipper, tiger, yellow bird wing, red lace wing and checkered swallow tail.

Each of these species has its own host plant that the caterpillar consumes.

"To have a successful butterfly business, you should have a large plantation of the host plants. The caterpillars are so voracious. Otherwise you have to rely on commercial breeders," Maceda says.

Singson's butterfly house has many flowering plants and has its own defogging system. Strings of ripe mangoes and plates of honey were placed in strategic areas to feed the butterflies.



BUTTERFLIES at the garden sip on honey.

STRINGS of ripe mangoes are placed in strategic areas at the butterfly garden owned by Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson to feed the butterflies. PHOTOS BY LEONCIO BALBIN JR

AyalaLand PREMIER

My son could not stop talking about the rush – he plans to make this his regular weekend sport.

It gives new meaning to "frequent flier."

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7-month old DM9JaymeSyfu gets shortlisted at Cannes

BARELY 7 MONTHS OLD AND fledgling advertising agency, DM9JaymeSyfu, gained finalist status in this year's prestigious Cannes International Advertising Festival. With an entry entitled "White" for client Tower Records, the agency was short listed in the Outdoor category. With over 25,000 total ad entries, this category alone had more than 5,000 ads from all over the world vying for the jury's attention, headed by Lowe Worldwide executive creative director Fernando Vega Olmos. The ad which spoofed the immensely popular Apple iPod ads, ironically promoted Compact Discs instead.

Jayme, Syfu at the opening gala party.

"From the beginning, we set out to be a creative agency," said partner Merlee Jayme. "Thanks to brave clients like Anton, we are quickly seeing this vision come true." Tower Records' chief operations officer Anton Ramos has expressed his delight and congratulated his agency as soon as he found out the great news.

The poster and banner campaign was created by one of the agency's multi-awarded teams composed of Eugene Demata, executive creative director, Louie Sotto, associate creative director and writer and Gogie Sinson, art director.

Before getting noticed in Cannes, the small agency's work for Coppertone was also featured in BestAdsonTv.com and Luerzer's Archive. It's "Pacquiao" TVC for Chicken Mcdo landed a no. 1 spot as the most recalled TV ad in the Philippines in last week's Media Magazine. DM9 is also behind Smart Telecommunications' funniest TVC to date with "Sadako" for Smart Load and HBC's OHM and "Allue" which have broken records in sales.

As the sister company of DDB worldwide, these achievements truly show the Bernbach spirit: Better Ideas, Better Results.

"Balancing profit with creativity is hard enough" according to partner Alex Syfu. "Doing it when you're 7 months old is almost unthinkable. But this proves that it can be done."

DM9JaymeSyfu is one of only 9 local agencies short listed in a year which by far is the best showing for the country. Joining them are BBDO-Guerrero Ortega, Ogilvy & Mather, Young & Rubicam, TBWA Santiago Mangada Puno, JWT, Y&R, 141 Worldwide Phils and Mediacom.

PAG-IBIG HDMF PARTNERS WITH AIR21

Pag-ibig HDMF, a premier and globally competitive financial institution and Air21, your Total Logistics Solutions Provider has joined together with its goal of offering excellent and fast services to its clientele nationwide. The contract signing last May 16, at the Atrium Bldg, Makati City marked the strong partnership between the two companies. With (from left) architect Lora B. Rivera, manager, facilities and office services department, Emma Linda Faria, SVP, technical support group, lawyer Romero F.S. Quimbo, president and CEO of Pag-ibig Fund, Angelito A. Alvarez, president and COO of Airfreight 2100 Inc and Cristina Montalvo, VP for PH Sales, Airfreight 2100 Inc, greater efficiency and service will truly be achieved.

YAKULT INAUGURATES YPI-ANNEX BUILDING

Yakult Philippines Inc (YPI) inaugurated its new annex building - an eight storey building located at 1461 F. Agoncillo corner Escoda Sts. Ermita Manila. The blessing was officiated by Fr. Alvin Fullon. Photo shows (from left) Joaquin Chipeco Jr - Calamba Mayor, Victory R. Dy Sun - vice chair, Yakult Phils Inc, Alberto R. Dy Sun - president Yakult Phils Inc, Akira Onose, - executive vice president Yakult Phils Inc (partly hidden), and Naomasa Tsuritani - managing director, Yakult Honsha Co Ltd Japan.

SO-EN SIZZLING BORACAY RAFFLE PROMO

Congratulations to all the winners of the recently concluded So-En Sizzling Boracay Raffle Promo participated by SM Department Stores, Robinsons Department Stores, The Landmark, Ever Grand Central and Metro Gaisano Market Market. The draw was held last May 30 at the So-En corporate office, 299 Araneta Avenue, Quezon City. Officiating the raffle draw are (from left): account manager Emely Roquios, HRD manager Ian Montenegro, production manager Tet Notarte, DTI Representative Nerissa Nera, executive secretary Nini Lu and sales manager Anthony Marcelino.

Bits & Clips

McCann Worldgroup Philippines launch

ERIC Einhorn.

ERIC EINHORN, global chief strategy officer of McCann Worldgroup and regional director of McCann Worldgroup Asia Pacific, will be the keynote speaker at the formal launch of McCann WorldGroup Philippines on July 13, at the Makati Shangri-La. Einhorn will speak on Demand Creation, McCann Worldgroup's new marketing communications philosophy, which is revolutionizing the way businesses are driving topline growth to more effectively compete in today's marketing environment. More and more companies realize that cutting cost only yields short-term gains, and the only sustainable way to deliver the bottom line is by creating greater demand for one's brands. Demand Creation is a concept that is more greatly attuned to today's demand-driven economy and a world that has become abundant in supply.

Alactagrow promo

ALACTAGROW GROWING UP MILK, A product of Mead Johnson presents 'Lakas Alactagrow, Proud si Mommy sa 'Yo'., a new raffle promo which runs from May 21 to July 20 this year. At stake are over a million worth in prizes. The raffle is open to mothers who have children ages one to six years old (until July 2006). Mothers may purchase a box of Alactagrow Growing Up Milk (in either 180g, 400g or 800g sizes). Simply remove the carton top to be placed in an envelope along with a size 2R picture (minimum size; this can also be a photocopied picture) of their child in a pose which shows "strong bones" and a blank sheet paper with the following details: mother's name, child's name, child's birthday, complete contact address, telephone or contact numbers and signature. These three items should be placed in a white legal size envelope to be dropped in drop boxes at participating supermarkets and groceries nationwide. A participant may send as many entries for more chances of winning. For the preliminary draw on June 27, the deadline for submission of entries is on June 18. Non-winning entries for the preliminary draw still have a chance to win in the grand raffle draw on August 1. Deadline for submission of entries for the grand draw is on July 20.

Hari, Ateneo Fifa World Cup activities

HYUNDAI ASIA RESOURCES INC (HARI) and the Ateneo Football Center (AFC) bring you the live telecast of the World Cup matches ongoing daily at the Ateneo Blue Eagle Gym in Katipunan from 9 p.m. onwards until July 9. As part of the month-long festivities, different Hyundai CRDi models will be on display at the Ateneo World Cup venue with campus test drive activities slated on the weekends. Hyundai will also be giving away original Fifa items through raffle and trivia contests during the scheduled programs before and after the matches. This activity aims to raise funds for the Ateneo Football Center for its developmental program for the youth. Season and daily game tickets are available for purchase at the Blue Eagle Gym or contact 426-1201 for details.

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JULY 27, 2006 • THURSDAY • 2:00 PM • CARIG PLAZA HOTEL, Daang Maharlika Hway, Santiago City, Isabela

ANGADANAN

LOT 1 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 768.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 374.00 sqm.
Lot 2 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price : 685,000.00

LOT 2 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 6,019.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 90.00 sqm.
Lot 1405, Canangan,
Minimum Bid Price : 1,012,000.00

LOT 3 - AGRILAND
Lot Area: 25,000.00 sqm.
Lot E-3-C Villa Domingo,
Minimum Bid Price : 320,000.00

LOT 4 - AGRILAND
Lot Area: 40,000.00 sqm.
Lot E-3-B Villa Domingo,
Minimum Bid Price : 450,000.00

AURORA

LOT 5 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 315.00 sqm.
Lot 4, Cor. Provincial Rd. & Cacal Sts., Bagon Linis, Sta. Rita
Minimum Bid Price : 455,000.00

BUGALLON NORTE

LOT 6 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 1,327.00 sqm.
Lot 4 Casuga St., Bugallon Norte
Minimum Bid Price : 285,000.00

CABAGAN

LOT 7 – VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 1,100.00 sqm.
Lot 2219-A, Barrio Of Cubag, Cabagan,
Minimum Bid Price : 74,000.00

CAUAYAN

LOT 8 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 200.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 72.00 sqm.
Lot 1-J-2-B Cabaruan
Minimum Bid Price : 485,000.00

LOT 9 - LOT W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 133.00 sqm.
Lot 1-B-2 Cabaruan
Minimum Bid Price : 125,000.00

LOT 10 - LOT W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 328.00 sqm.
Lot 1-A-4-A-4-E-6-C Eufronia Ave., Prenza
Minimum Bid Price : 551,000.00

LOT 11 - LOT W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 382.00 sqm.
Lot 19, Sillawit
Minimum Bid Price : 87,000.00

LOT 12 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 450.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 420.00 sqm.
Lot 20-E-6-E-1 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price : 8,406,000.00

LOT 13 - LOT W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 260.00 sqm.
Lot 1-A-4-A-4-E-G-B-1 Eufronia Ave., Prenza
Minimum Bid Price : 423,000.00

LOT 14 - LOT W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 2000 sqm.
Lot B-5-E, Lot B-5-F-3-S-5,Nat'L Road, Prenza
Minimum Bid Price : 6,843,000.00

LOT 15 – VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 1,497 sqm.
Lots 1,3 & 5 Nat'L Road, Prenza (Formerly Minante),
Minimum Bid Price : 2,246,000.00

LOT 16 – VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 1,629.00 sqm.
Lot B-5-B-1-C Cabaruan
Minimum Bid Price : 285,000.00

LOT 17 – VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 354.00 sqm.
Lot 44 Centro
Minimum Bid Price : 73,000.00

LOT 18 – VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 315.00 sqm.
Lot 3-H-1 Eufronia Ave., Prenza
Minimum Bid Price : 524,000.00

DELFIN ALBANO.

LOT 19 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 223.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 77.00 sqm.
Lot 599-B Along Provincial Rd., San Jose
Minimum Bid Price : 300,000.00

LOT 20 - VACANT
Lot Area: 1,105.00 sqm.
Lot 1-B-2 Along Provincial Road, Rizal, Delfin Albano,
Minimum Bid Price : 282,000.00

LOT 21 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 1920 sqm.
Floor Area: 210.00 sqm.
Lot 600-A & 600-B Along Provincial Road, San Jose
Minimum Bid Price : 1,621,000.00

ECHAGUE

LOT 22 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 13, E.M. Pinzon Subd., San Fabian
Minimum Bid Price : 240,000.00

LOT 23 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 15, E.M. Pinzon Subdivision, San Fabian
Minimum Bid Price : 240,000.00

LOT 24 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 19, E.M. Pinzon Subd., San Fabian
Minimum Bid Price : 240,000.00

LOT 25 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 21, E.M. Pinzon Subdivision, San Fabian
Minimum Bid Price : 240,000.00

LOT 26 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 396.00 sqm.
Lot 23, E.M. Pinzon Subd., San Fabian
Minimum Bid Price : 412,000.00

FRIAR LANDS ESTATE

LOT 27 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 640.00 sqm.
Lot 424-C, Friar Lands Estate
Minimum Bid Price : 164,000.00

ILAGAN

LOT 28 - VACANT
Lot Area: 308.00 sqm.
Lot 3-A, Blk 3 Calamagui 2Nd
Minimum Bid Price : 210,000.00

LOT 29 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 233.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 191.00 sqm.
Lot 5, Blk 7 P. Apostol St., Calamagui 2Nd
Minimum Bid Price : 458,000.00

LOT 30 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 503.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 102.00 sqm.
Lot 7139-A Alinguigan 2Nd
Minimum Bid Price : 478,000.00

LOT 31 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 474 sqm.
Floor Area: 88.00 sqm.
Lot 3& 4, Blk 30 Rubia St., Greenheights Subd., Brgy. Alibagu
Minimum Bid Price : 690,000.00

LOT 32 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 123.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 237.00 sqm.
Lot 2-A-2 Capitol Ave., Calamagui 2Nd, Ilagan,
Minimum Bid Price : 1,500,000.00

MALLIG

LOT 33 - LOT W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 1,916.00 sqm.
Lot 1031-A-1-D Nat'L Road, Centro 1
Minimum Bid Price : 1,010,000.00

LOT 34 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 752.00 sqm.
Lot 3903, San Jose Norte
Minimum Bid Price : 76,000.00

QUEZON

LOT 35 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 400.00 sqm.
Lot 2686-C, Abut
Minimum Bid Price : 70,000.00

ROXAS

LOT 36 - LOT W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 5,070.00 sqm.
Lo T5797-B, Sotero Nuesa
Minimum Bid Price : 416,000.00

LOT 37 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 544.00 sqm.
Lot 90, Facoma Site, Bantug (Formerly Vira)
Minimum Bid Price : 218,000.00

LOT 38 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 534.00 sqm.
Lot 91, Facoma Site, Bantug (Formerly Vira)
Minimum Bid Price : 215,000.00

LOT 39 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 345.00 sqm.
Lot 93, Facoma Subd., Bantug (Formerly Vira)
Minimum Bid Price : 140,000.00

SAN AGUSTIN

LOT 40 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 1,826 sqm.
Floor Area: 119.00 sqm.
Lot 2-A & Lot 2-B-2 Along Provincial Road, Masaya Sur
Minimum Bid Price : 620,000.00

SAN ISIDRO

LOT 41 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 1,000.00 sqm.
Lot 29 Victoria (Now Dona Paulina)
Minimum Bid Price : 128,000.00

LOT 42 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 1,000.00 sqm.
Lot 6 Victoria (Now Dona Paulina)
Minimum Bid Price : 128,000.00

SAN MANUEL

LOT 43 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 20,000.00 sqm.
Lot 3342-B, Brgy. Eden
Minimum Bid Price : 385,000.00

LOT 44 - AGRILAND
Lot Area: 324.00 sqm.
Lot 7,Blk 4 Dist 3
Minimum Bid Price : 165,000.00

LOT 45 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 178.00 sqm.
Lot 26 Blk 2, Dist. 3
Minimum Bid Price : 76,000.00

LOT 46 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 175.00 sqm.
Lot 27 Blk 2, Dist. 3
Minimum Bid Price : 105,000.00

SAN MATEO

LOT 47 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 290.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 56.00 sqm.
Lot 5455-B National Road, Marasat Pequeño
Minimum Bid Price : 555,000.00

SANTIAGO

LOT 48 - VACANT
Lot Area: 1,349.00 sqm.
Lot 482-F-4, Mabini
Minimum Bid Price : 1,890,000.00

LOT 49 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 752-E-6-A Patul
Minimum Bid Price : 360,000.00

LOT 50 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 752-E-6-B Patul
Minimum Bid Price : 360,000.00

STA. MARIA

LOT 51 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 1,084.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 168.00 sqm.
Lot 257 District 1
Minimum Bid Price : 495,000.00

TUMAUINI

LOT 52 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 1,057.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 202.00 sqm.
Lot 1545 Nat'L Rd. Barrio Lingaling
Minimum Bid Price : 2,700,000.00

LOT 53 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 249.00 sqm.
Lot 1860-B, Pascaran, District II
Minimum Bid Price : 101,000.00

LOT 54 - VACANT
Lot Area: 1,068.00 sqm.
Lot 2663 Nat'L Road Brgy. Lanna
Minimum Bid Price : 476,000.00

LOT 55 - VACANT
Lot Area: 222.00 sqm.
Lot 2412-C San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 114,000.00

ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES

LOT 56 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
WITHDRAWN
Lot Area: 2,263.00 sqm.
Floor Area: [illegible] sqm.
[illegible]-A, Provincial Rd.,Brgy.Kalabaza, Aurora,
Minimum Bid Price : 1,535,000.00

LOT 57 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 1,102.50 sqm.
Lot 1-A Brgy. San Ramon,
Minimum Bid Price : 365,000.00

LOT 58 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 319.75 sqm.
Lot 3508-H, Provincial Rd.,Ballesteros,
Minimum Bid Price : 155,000.00

LOT 59 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 275.00 sqm.
Lot 2929-A,Prov'L Rd., Sta. Rosa,
Minimum Bid Price : 785,000.00

LOT 60 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 346.66 sqm.
Floor Area: 207.00 sqm.
Lot 20234-C, Caliguian, Burgos
Minimum Bid Price : 540,000.00

LOT 61 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 70,044.00 sqm.
Lot 4479 Brgy. Rd. Ranieg, Burgos
Minimum Bid Price : 370,000.00

LOT 62 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 1,643.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 148.00 sqm.
Lot 166-C, Brgy. Muñoz East,Roxas
Minimum Bid Price : 675,000.00

LOT 63 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 1,032.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 181.00 sqm.
Lots 1,2,3,& 4/Blk 5 Nat'L. Rd., Brgy. Bantug (Formerly Vira), Roxas
Minimum Bid Price : 4,890,000.00

LOT 64 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 9,030.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 179.00 sqm.
Lot 3886-A,B,D &F, Provincial Rd., Basilio, Roxas,
Minimum Bid Price : 2,315,000.00

LOT 65 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 240.00 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 11, Vira(Now Bantug), Roxas
Minimum Bid Price : 135,000.00

LOT 66 - VACANT LOT
Lot Area: 376.00 sqm.
Lot 8227,Cor. M. Taganas & G. Del Pilar Sts., Viira, Roxas,
Minimum Bid Price : 895,000.00

LOT 67 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 2,163.00 sqm.
Floor Area: 76.00 sqm.
Lot 4-H, Brgy. Cabantan, San Manuel,
Minimum Bid Price : 1,085,000.00

LOT 68 - LOT W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 451.00 sqm.
Lot 11039-H, Catacoan(Now Brgy.1).San Mateo.
Minimum Bid Price : 1,805,000.00

LOT 69 - LOT W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 451.00 sqm.
Lot 11039-G,Catacoan(Now Brgy.1),San Mateo,
Minimum Bid Price : 1,805,000.00

LOT 70 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
Lot Area: 1,651+800=2,451 sqm.
Floor Area: 160.00 sqm.
Lots 4-K & 4-L Brgy Rd. Cabantan, San Miguel,
Minimum Bid Price : 835,000.00

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PROPERTIES FOR SALE ARE ON AN "AS IS WHERE IS" BASIS. PROPERTIES AND PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. PLEASE CONFIRM ATTENDANCE TO ENSURE SEATS AND PARKING.

Product FILES

Tintin and Antonia Babao for Robby Rabbit

TINTIN AND ANTONIA Bersola Babao recently signed as Robby Rabbit's new product endorsers. Tintin was the top-of-mind choice of Characters Unlimited (makers and distributor of Robby Rabbit) because of their belief that she is truly a hands on mom and will only give the best to her child - from childhood to her growing up years. Watch out for their series of exciting and colorful events lined -up for this year as Characters Unlimited intensifies their marketing and advertising activities. Robby Rabbit products are available at Characters Unlimited branches in Tutuban Centermall I, Manila; Festival Supermall, Alabang; Riverbanks Mall, Marikina; Magic Star Mall, Tarlac and a wholesale outlet in #545 Juan Luna Street, Binondo Manila; All leading department stores nationwide. For more information you can text to 0917-88ROBBY (8876229) or e-mail at inquiry@robbyrabbit.com.ph.

Indulge with the King Sampler at Burger King

BARKADAS UNITE! THE BURGER KING KING Sampler includes the following entrees: Whopper Jr. with Cheese, Chicken Tenders Sandwich with Cheese, 5-pc. Chicken Tenders plus the following sides: onion rings and golden French fries and three drinks of your choice at a surprisingly affordable P250. For the drinks, have it your way with any of these choices: softdrinks (Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Sarsi), Hi-C Apple and Lipton ice tea. Upsize options also apply, just add P9. So, what are you waiting for? Get your friends, family and officemates now and troop to Burger King and sample this King-sized spread. If you're looking for a filling "pasalubong" for the family, the King Sampler will surely agree with everyone's appetite. This offer is valid for dine-in, drive-thru and take out. For other fire-grilled burgers, check out the 30 Burger King restaurants

BURGER KING

SEALING the partnership with a handshake are Johnip G. Cua, president and general manager of P&GP and UP president Emerlinda R. Roman.

UP signs research deal with P&G

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (UP) and Procter& Gamble Distributing (Philippines) Inc. recently signed the Research Service Agreement on the UP Biotech-P&G's Head & Shoulders' (H&S) Professional Acceptance Program. Extensive laboratory tests and clinical trials conducted by P&G, along with the test conducted by UP Biotech, have scientifically proven that H&S with its antidandruff property, can help provide health benefits to consumers. Biotech is a center of excellence at the UP Los Banos that promotes scientific knowledge in biotechnology and related fields which stimulates advancements in the frontiers of science.

Setting . . .

From page B4

so enjoy the challenge of keeping Goldtech at par with the other distributors. This is also the main reason why I have associated with COMDAPP, an organization that is composed of some of the best minds in the IT industry."

Goldtech, according NAUI scuba diver Gigi, is also a close ally of Korean giant Samsung Electronics. "Samsung provides world-class computer products that are patronized by our consumer base." Currently, Goldtech is distributing Samsung Optical Drives and Hard Drives - IDE and Mobile Drives, Monitors for special projects and is looking forward to partnering with them for Samsung's lifestyle products. She credits the proactive leadership of Samsung President Spencer Shim as instrumental in fortifying further the partnership between both parties.

For his part, Shim says: Central to Samsung's growth equation in the Philippines is our vital and vibrant alliance with important industry players like Goldtech. We are proud of our association with this leading distributor because it aggressively promotes our IT products, specifically Samsung monitors, which is number one in the world. "Needless to say, our market leadership is largely dependent on our trust-based, mutually-beneficial relationship with Goldtech and our other partners. That's why apart from providing them superior products and technology, we also share with them our innovative marketing programs such as the Samsung Academy and the Global Samsung Business Network (GSBN). We make sure that whatever system is applied in Samsung is also being applied in our dealers and distributors to better serve the Filipino consumers," Shim emphasizes.

Of course, Goldtech shares Samsung's overarching goal of enhancing the lives of Filipinos through digital technology. So what can then the buying public expect from Goldtech in the long term? "Goldtech will keep embracing more quality technology and solutions that companies like Samsung steadily creates, at the same time continue excelling in the service department. We will constantly improve our company in terms of the products we provide to our dealers, system integrators and resellers," Gigi adds.

Office ...

From page B4

these things were taken away from them in an instant. When he spoke of the loss of his four children and wife our eyes welled up with tears but then he spoke of second chances and how our efforts the past few days have given him and his neighbors hope.

Looking back at our efforts, the GK build was more than a simple construction project. It was a chance for ordinary people like us HSBC volunteers, office people, to get involved in helping out other people. Even during this event, it great to see teams helping each other out, teams like Team Butuan and Team Buwayang Bato who helped us with our set-ups, the army contingent that helped us put up our dining area and even Team Meralco, our camp site neighbors that aptly provided us with a light post complete with a bulb to light our camp at night. Building houses may have been the physical objective but people helping people out was what this project was all about.

Team HSBC consisted of Timm Conzon, Colby de Leon, Eric Ferreos, Francis Gaspar, Kristine de Castro, Marlon Sison, Nilo Casocot, Rex Balucan, Vince Mananhaya and Joey Zaballero.

Phones for all seasons and reasons

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

SINGAPORE—THEY RECORD calories burned during exercise, measure heart and pulse rates, keep track of shopping lists, play as many as 3,000 songs with a deep, booming bass and take five-megapixel digital photographs.

And yes, they make calls and send text messages, too.

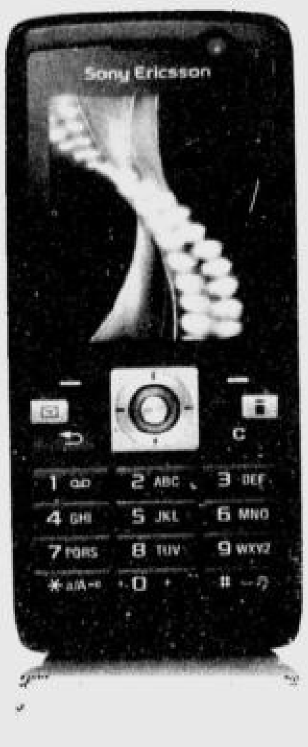
Mobile phones that do all these and more took center stage during the recently concluded CommunicAsia2006 conference here, the biggest annual gathering of players in the communications and information technology industries in Asia.

A popular destination was the booth of Sony Ericcson, which prominently displayed its line of phones with the revered Walkman brand.

Sony Ericsson unveiled here the Fusion White edition of its W810i Walkman phone, a quad-band phone that enables users to transfer their music from their computer or access music download services, while staying connected to friends, family and business colleagues from anywhere in the world.

It also has a built-in two-megapixel digital camera, which is a much sought-after feature by today's generation of mobile phone owners, who want to listen to music and take pictures using their phones.

Its other phones include the Sony Ericsson W850i Walkman phone, its first slider phone and the W710i designed for the fitness enthusiast, with its sensors that measure the running speed, distance and time, or steps when walking.



K610im

Hard to miss was the booth of LG Mobile, where tall, tan, young and lovely models invited guests to view the Korean firm's Chocolate Black Label series phone.

The sleek, black KG800 slider phone, that's just a little bigger and thicker than a playing card, does away with buttons and instead relies on a touch-sensitive screen to help the user navigate through the menu.

The Chocolate Phone comes with a music player, 128 megabytes of onboard memory and a 1.3-megapixel camera.

Not to be outdone in the design field is American firm Motorola, which drew hordes of visitors to its booth because of the gigantic poster of world famous footballer David Beckham, which the telecommunications company recently signed as its global brand ambassador.

Beneath the steely gaze of the captain of the English team at the World Cup, Motorola showcased its Moto Q, which was introduced for the first time in Asia.

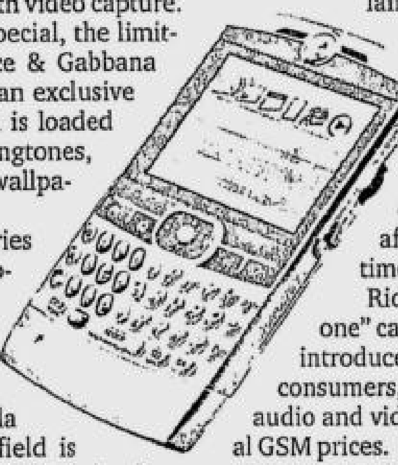
Motorola claims that the Moto Q is the world's thinnest phone with a qwerty keyboard, which combines the features of a phone, personal productivity and entertainment device in one stylish unit.

But what generated the oohs and aahs was the Motorazr phone designed by Dolce & Gabbana, continuing the tradition of leading fashion designers being tapped to put more pizzazz into what could be cold, hard, metallic mobile phones.

The Dolce & Gabbana phone for Motorola, like the other Motorazr phones, comes with an MP3 player and a 1.23-megapixel camera with video capture.

To make it more special, the limited edition gold Dolce & Gabbana handset comes with an exclusive branded lanyard and is loaded with exclusive ringtones, screen savers and wallpapers.

Optional accessories are a Dolce and Gabbana gold eel skin carry case, gold earphones and a headset.



Battling Motorola on the slim phone field is Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd. of Korea, which came to Singapore bearing what it claims to be the world's slimmest mobile handsets, the Samsung X820 and Samsung D900 under the Ultra line.

The Ultra Edition 6.9 (X820) leads the handset pack, boasting the world's thinnest profile of only 6.9 mm, about as thick as a 100-page fashion magazine.

Also on display was the Ultra Edition 12.9 (D900), the world's slimmest slider with a depth of only 12.9mm and a 3-megapixel camera. Making its debut at CommunicAsia was the Ultra Edition 9.9 (D830), a brand new clamshell handset that is 9.9 mm thin.

Samsung said it was banking on the Ultra line of phones to conquer the slim phone category, which it believes is what consumers today are hungry for.

Notably absent from the show was mobile phone leader Nokia of Finland, but a week earlier, it hosted its own Nokia Connection event where it featured its three new handsets, including a cheap 3G handset, a camera phone and an affordable model for first-time users.

Riding on its "3G for Everyone" campaign, the Nokia 6151 introduces the benefits of 3G to consumers, such as downloading audio and video content, at traditional GSM prices.

It comes with a 1.3-megapixel camera, Bluetooth connectivity and a music player.

But even without Nokia at the show, the message is clear: The evolution of the mobile phone is far from over, and the battleground has expanded to include not just technology, but design and additional features, as well.

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PUBLIC AUCTION

JULY 13, 2006 • THURSDAY • 2:00 PM • EAST ASIA ROYAL E HOTEL, National Hway Lagao, Gen. Santos City, South Cotabato

ANTIPAS
LOT 1 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 42,881 sqm
Lot 349 Homestead Road, Sitio Malasin, Brgy. Malasin
Minimum Bid Price 225,000.00

KABACAN
LOT 2 - AGRILAND
L.A. 79,547 sqm
Lot 9 875 Brgy. Pisan
Minimum Bid Price 239,000.00

KIDAPAWAN
LOT 3 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 750 sqm.
Lots 3 & 4, Block 2 Pascual Subd., Singao
Minimum Bid Price 200,000.00
LOT 4 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 80 sqm. F.A. 89 sqm.
Lot 2953-A-2 3150 Quezon Blvd.
Minimum Bid Price 390,000.00
LOT 5 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 140 sqm. F.A. 108 sqm.
Lot 10-A-14-B Lumogdang Subd.,
Minimum Bid Price 290,000.00
LOT 6 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 873 sqm. F.A. 103 sqm.
Lot No 3323 M. Cuenco St.
Minimum Bid Price 365,000.00
LOT 7 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 300 sqm. F.A. 108 sqm.
Lot 10-8-4-D-1-W Angre Subd.,
Minimum Bid Price 310,000.00
LOT 8 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 532 sqm.
Lot 10-8-1-1-10-E-6-A Mundog Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 238,000.00
LOT 9 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 2,957 sqm.
Lot 2-S Guevo & Langabe Sts., Madrid Subd., Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 7,150,000.00
LOT 10 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 1,470 sqm.
Lots 2-R-3-G, 2-R-3-H & 2-R-3-I Anahaw St. Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 4,520,000.00
LOT 11 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 486 sqm
Lot 2-P-2 Anahaw St Pob
Minimum Bid Price 1,505,000.00

MAGPET
LOT 12 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 375 sqm. F.A. 74 sqm.
Lot 414-B-1-A-8 Sanael Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 156,000.00
LOT 13 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 264 sqm. F.A. 107 sqm.
Lot 8, Blk 8 Matas St.
Minimum Bid Price 80,000.00

MAKILALA
LOT 14 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 360 sqm. F.A. 78 sqm.
Lot 4-P-6 Gasatan Subd., Purok 8 Pob
Minimum Bid Price 250,000.00

MATALAM
LOT 15 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 51,371 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 2, National Highway, Brgy Manubuan, Matalam North
Minimum Bid Price 1,530,000.00

M'LANG
LOT 16 - LOT W/ [illegible]
WITHDRAWN
[illegible] M'Lang,
Minimum Bid Price 295,000.00
LOT 17 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 1,423 sqm. F.A. 78 sqm.
Lot 10007-A Bandiola Subd. Brgy Inas
Minimum Bid Price 623,000.00

TULUNAN
LOT 18 - LOT W/ [illegible]
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price 235,000.00
LOT 19 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 619 sqm. F.A. 147 sqm.
Lot 2028 Pob
Minimum Bid Price 405,000.00
LOT 20 - W/MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 1,237 sqm.
Lot 3300 Lot 3301 Magsaysay And Burgos Sts. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 494,000.00

[illegible]
LOT 21 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 327 sqm. F.A. 38 sqm.
Lot 1-H Municipal Circuit Rd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 96,000.00

GENERAL SANTOS
LOT 22 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 4,574 sqm.
Lot 3-B Sulaay-Makar Road, Labangal
Minimum Bid Price 5,125,000.00
LOT 23 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 600 sqm. F.A. 126 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk. 30 Purok San Vicente, Espina Subd., Labangal
Minimum Bid Price 450,000.00
LOT 24 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 8,564 sqm. F.A. 157 sqm.
Lot 828-A-1 Along Quinto St., Brgy San Isidro
Minimum Bid Price 3,690,000.00
LOT 25 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 14,170 sqm.
Lot A-2 1St Barrio, San Isidro
Minimum Bid Price 1,985,000.00
LOT 26 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 4,528 sqm.
Lot 2 Purok 2, Buayan
Minimum Bid Price 710,000.00
LOT 27 - W/MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
WITHDRAWN
[illegible] Makar Road, Labangal
Minimum Bid Price 1,730,000.00
LOT 28 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 540 sqm. F.A. 201 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 1, Dbp Compound, Lagao
Minimum Bid Price 1,280,000.00
LOT 29 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 277 sqm. F.A. 53 sqm.
Lot 893-B-4-B-7-B-7-E Morales Subd. City Heights
Minimum Bid Price 240,000.00
LOT 30 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 450 sqm. F.A. 216 sqm.
Lot No 5030 Camachili St
Minimum Bid Price 1,545,000.00
LOT 31 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 191 sqm.
Lot 4-A Sta. Cruz And San Juan Sts
Minimum Bid Price 210,000.00
LOT 32 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 8,898 sqm.
Lot H Purok 2 Buayan
Minimum Bid Price 550,000.00
LOT 33 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 476 sqm.
Lot 4092 Cagampang Street, General Santos City
Minimum Bid Price 2,660,000.00
LOT 34 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 1,505 sqm.
Lot A-3-E Rivas Subd., Brgy Calumpang
Minimum Bid Price 385,200.00
LOT 35 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 19,973 sqm.
Lot 750-B Klinan Rd Brgy. Mabuhay
Minimum Bid Price 1,840,000.00
LOT 36 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 19,974 sqm.
Lot 750-E Klinan Rd. Brgy. Mabuhay
Minimum Bid Price 1,840,000.00
LOT 37 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 10,000 sqm.
Lot 1-B-9 Brgy Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 6,000,000.00
LOT 38 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 3,979 sqm.
Lot 20-D Banisil Subd., Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 1,275,000.00
LOT 39 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 6,389 sqm.
Lot 25-A Fronting Lot 39 Brgy Fatima, Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 2,175,000.00
LOT 40 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 461 sqm.
Lot 21-I-5-E Banisil Subd. Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 170,000.00
LOT 41 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 16,000 sqm.
Lot 20-B Banisil Subd., Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 3,200,000.00
LOT 42 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 8,461 sqm.
Lot 19-C-2-B-1 Banisil Subd. Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 2,449,000.00
LOT 43 - VACANT LOT
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price 4,250,000.00
LOT 44 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 476 sqm.
Lot 4092 Cagampang St.
Minimum Bid Price 2,860,000.00
LOT 45 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 23,331 sqm.
Lot 26 B-2-D Brgy. Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 4,250,000.00

POLOMOLOK
LOT 46 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 668 sqm. F.A. 185 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 6 Cannery Housing Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 770,000.00
LOT 47 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 300 sqm. F.A. 42 sqm.
Lot 6-2-9-C-4-A-5 Rañadasubd.
Minimum Bid Price 105,000.00
LOT 48 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 2 Sanchez Subd.,
Minimum Bid Price 120,000.00
LOT 49 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk. 2 Sanchez Subd
Minimum Bid Price 120,000.00
LOT 50 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
Lot 15 Blk. 2 Sanchez Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 120,000.00

STO. NIÑO
LOT 51 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 309 sqm. F.A. 167 sqm.
Lot 1362-B-8-K-1 Calenza Subd Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 290,000.00
LOT 52 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 202 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk 2 Eborde Subd Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 53 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 202 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 2 Eborde Subd Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: 50,000.00
LOT 54 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 201 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 2 Eborde Subd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 55 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 201 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 2 Eborde Subd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 56 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 1383-G-4 Eborde Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 57 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 974 sqm.
Lot 1383-E-5 Eborde Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 190,000.00
LOT 58 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 1383-G-6 Eborde Subd
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 59 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 1383-G-3 Eborde Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 60 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 1383-G-1 Eborde Subd
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 61 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 1383-G-2 Eborde Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 62 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 400 sqm.
Lot 1383-G-9 Eborde Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 100,000.00
LOT 63 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm. F.A. sqm.
Lot 11 Blk. 3 Eborde Subd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 64 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 201 sqm. F.A. sqm.
Lot 5 Blk. 3 Eborde Subd., Poblacion,
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 65 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 201 sqm. F.A. sqm.
Lot 9 Blk. 3 Eborde Subd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 66 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 191 sqm. F.A. sqm.
Lot 2 Blk. 6 Eborde Subd, Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00
LOT 67 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 380 sqm.
Lot 1322-B-11-J-4-E Parian Subd., Pob
Minimum Bid Price 110,000.00
LOT 68 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 300 sqm. F.A. 300 sqm.
Lot No 1320-I Poblacion, Sto Nino, South
Minimum Bid Price 240,000.00

[illegible]
LOT 69 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 520 sqm. F.A. 130 sqm.
Lot 78 Nat'l Highway Purok 13 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 765,000.00

[illegible]
LOT 70 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 1200 sqm. F.A. 99 sqm.
Lot 580-B-1-B & 580-B-1-C Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 490,000.00
LOT 71 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 700 sqm. F.A. 102 sqm
Lot 6218 Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 1,355,000.00
LOT 72 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 3,231 sqm.
Lot 1877-B, Kalawag I Ext., Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 440,000.00
LOT 73 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 1,491 sqm.
643 Kalawag I Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 635,000.00
LOT 74 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 600 sqm.
321-B-2-B-1-H-3 Kalawag II Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 153,000.00
LOT 75 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 293 sqm.
Lot 152-C-8-C, Brgy Sampao, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 75,000.00
LOT 76 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 445 sqm.
Lot 762-A-2-E, Purok Capitol East, Brgy Sampao, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price: 150,000.00
LOT 77 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 1,052 sqm.
3-F-4 & 3-G-1 Nat'l Hi-Way, Poblacion, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 5,950,000.00

PRES. QUIRINO
LOT 78 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 1,268 sqm.
Lot 763-B-16, Lot 763-B-15, Lot 763-B-14, Purok Capilar, Pob Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 1,555,000.00
LOT 79 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 751 sqm.
Lot 763-B-24 Poblacion, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 240,000.00

TACURONG
LOT 80 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 388 sqm. F.A. 84 sqm.
Lot 6744-F-4 San Pablo, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 330,000.00
LOT 81 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 5,000 sqm. F.A. 420 sqm.
Lot 566-A-1 Buenaflor Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 5,375,000.00
LOT 82 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 592 sqm. F.A. 67 sqm.
Lot 500-A-1-F, Buenaflor Subd
Minimum Bid Price 280,000.00
LOT 83 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
L.A. 375 sqm. F.A. 75 sqm.
Lot 619-J-7-F-2, Purok Sampaguita, New Isabela
Minimum Bid Price 230,000.00
LOT 84 - LOT W/IMPRVTS
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price 1,755,000.00
LOT 85 - LOT W/IMPRVT
L.A. 2159 sqm.
Lot 26/27/28 Brgy Katungal
Minimum Bid Price 435,000.00

ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES

ANTIPAS
LOT 86 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 266.00 sqm.
FA 118.00 sqm.
Lot 714-L, M L Quezon St Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 553,000.00
LOT 87 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 659.00 sqm.
Lot 715 B-1 M L Quezon St. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 733,000.00
LOT 88 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 304.00 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 11 JP Laurel St Pob
Minimum Bid Price 30,000.00

ARAKAN
LOT 89 - AGRICULTURAL LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 3499+45091+1000 = 49590 sqm.
Lot 196-A, 196-B 196-C Brgy Badiangon
Minimum Bid Price 226,000.00

CARMEN
LOT 90 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 1,200.00 sqm
FA 93.00 sqm.
Lot 2129 Cor. Acacia-Guava-Santos Sts., Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 244,000.00
LOT 91 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA: 1,199.00 sqm.
FA: 138.00 sqm.
Lot 1974 Cor. Rambutan & Leoncito Sts., Pob
Minimum Bid Price: 488,000.00
LOT 92 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 600.00 sqm.
FA: 131.00 sqm.
Lot 2214-B Cor. Sampaguita & Dahlia Sts., Pob
Minimum Bid Price: 449,000.00
LOT 93 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 600.00 sqm.
FA. 53.00 sqm.
Lot 1956-B Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 288,000.00
LOT 94 - VACANT LOT
LA 1,200.00 sqm.
Lot 1540 Purok 2 Pob
Minimum Bid Price 187,000.00

KABACAN
LOT 95 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 333.00 sqm.
FA 392.00 sqm.
Lot 713-L-4-F-1-B & 1-B-11, Blk 3 Usm Avenue
Minimum Bid Price 1,665,000.00
LOT 96 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 887.00 sqm.
Lot 754-B-15-Mm. Malvar St., Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 1,045,000.00
LOT 97 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 599.00 sqm.
FA 180.00 sqm.
Lot 2050-A Nat'L Highway, Katidtuan
Minimum Bid Price 487,000.00

KIDAPAWAN
LOT 98 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 850.00 sqm.
FA 157.00 sqm.
Lot 54-A-5 Subd Road Naval Subd., Brgy Lanao
Minimum Bid Price 462,000.00
LOT 99 - VACANT
LA 494.00 sqm.
Lot 3067-B Tomas Claudio St
Minimum Bid Price 210,000.00

MAKILALA
LOT 100 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 600.00 sqm.
FA 158.00 sqm.
Lot 20-B-1-C Dapon Subd Brgy. Saguing
Minimum Bid Price 266,000.00

MATALAM
LOT 101 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 1,200.00 sqm.
Lot 57-E 2-B-2 Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 117,000.00
LOT 102 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 306.00 sqm.
FA 375.00 sqm.
Lot 56-B-10 Pob
Minimum Bid Price 899,000.00
LOT 103 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 533.00 sqm.
FA 232.00 sqm.
Lot 55-J, National Highway, Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 306,000.00

M'LANG
LOT 104 - AGRILAND
LA 23,414.00 sqm.
Lot 1534-A, Dungo-An
Minimum Bid Price 225,000.00
LOT 105 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 400.00 sqm.
FA 395.00 sqm.
Lot 10099-I-7 I-8 Juson Subd. Brgy Inas
Minimum Bid Price 778,000.00
LOT 106 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 6,893.00 sqm.
FA 1,717.00 sqm.
Lot 2647-E Bagontapay
Minimum Bid Price 2,567,000.00
LOT 107 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 360.00 sqm.
FA 138.00 sqm.
Lot 2626-C Brgy. Road Public Market, Bagontapay
Minimum Bid Price 217,000.00
LOT 108 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 756.00 sqm.
FA. 269.00 sqm.
Lot 3212 Jacinto St. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 817,000.00

PIKIT
LOT 109 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 846.00 sqm.
Lot 939 Brgy Batulawan
Minimum Bid Price 77,000.00
LOT 110 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 922.00 sqm.
Lot 950 Brgy Batulawan
Minimum Bid Price 69,000.00
LOT 111 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 773.00 sqm.
FA 300.00 sqm.
Lot 74 Lapu-Lapu St., Pob
Minimum Bid Price 463,000.00
LOT 112 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 683.00 sqm.
FA 56.00 sqm.
Lot 68 Lapu Lapu St
Minimum Bid Price 318,750.00

PRES. ROXAS
LOT 113 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA. 63,635.00 sqm.
Lot 4602 Del Pilar
Minimum Bid Price 294,000.00

TULUGAN
LOT 114 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 100,332.00 sqm.
Lot 297 La Esperanza
Minimum Bid Price 675,000.00

GENERAL SANTOS
LOT 115 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
WITHDRAWN
LA 397.75 sqm.
[illegible] Road Bliss
Minimum Bid Price 407,000.00
LOT 116 - VACANT
LA 6,289.00 sqm.
Lot 25-A Road (Public Land) Fronting Lot 39, Brgy. Fatima Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 2,173,000.00
LOT 117 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 585.00 sqm.
FA 306.00 sqm.
Lot 11, Block 4 Road Lot Mateo Subdivision, Mateo Road Lagao
Minimum Bid Price 1,173,000.00
LOT 118 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 585.00 sqm.
FA 236.00 sqm.
Lot 14, Block 4 Road Lot (Alley) Mateo Subdivision, Mateo Road, Lagao
Minimum Bid Price 969,000.00
LOT 119 - VACANT LOT
LA 254 + 238 = 492.00 sqm.
Lot 2 & Lot 4 Blk 1 Subd. Road, Lanzang Village, Phase I, Lagao
Minimum Bid Price 136,000.00
LOT 120 - AGRILAND
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price 1,838,000.00
LOT 121 - AGRILAND
WITHDRAWN
LA 19,973.00 sqm.
Minimum Bid Price 1,838,000.00
LOT 122 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
WITHDRAWN
LA 9,564.00 sqm.
Minimum Bid Price 3,425,000.00
LOT 123 - VACANT
WITHDRAWN
LA 10,000.00 sqm.
Minimum Bid Price 3,200,000.00
LOT 124 - VACANT
WITHDRAWN
LA 3,979.00 sqm.
Minimum Bid Price 1,274,000.00
LOT 125 - VACANT
WITHDRAWN
LA 8,461.00 sqm.
[illegible] Banisil
Minimum Bid Price 2,437,000.00
LOT 126 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 252.00 sqm
FA 204.00 sqm.
Lot 894-F-8-D, Orange Subd City Heights
Minimum Bid Price 413,000.00
LOT 127 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 305.00 sqm.
Lot 879-B 2-A-2 Subd Road Lot I Zaldivar Subd., City Heights
Minimum Bid Price [illegible]

POLOMOLOK
LOT 128 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA. 300.00 sqm.
FA 42.00 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 1, Tuazon Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 207,000.00
LOT 129 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA. 300.00 sqm.
FA. 42.00 sqm.
Lot 6-2-9-C-4-A-5 Subd. Road Raneda Subd
Minimum Bid Price 105,000.00

STO. NIÑO
LOT 130 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 507.00 sqm.
FA 250.00 sqm.
Lot 1322-B-11-J-4-H-4 Farm Road Parian Subd., Pob.
Minimum Bid Price [illegible]

SURALLAH
LOT 131 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA. 356.00 sqm.
FA. 77.00 sqm.
Lot 43 Road Lot 73 Capurihan Subd. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 162,000.00

DIGOS
LOT 132 - VACANT LOT
LA. 200.00 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 3 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 133 - VACANT LOT
LA. 197.00 sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 3 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 134 - VACANT LOT
LA. 200.00 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 135 - VACANT LOT
LA 200.00 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 136 - VACANT LOT
LA. 200.00 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 137 - VACANT LOT
LA: 200.00 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 138 - VACANT LOT
LA 200.00 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 139 - VACANT LOT
LA 200.00 sqm
Lot 12 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 140 - VACANT LOT
LA 197.00 sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 141 - VACANT LOT
LA 197.00 sqm
Lot 14 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 142 - VACANT LOT
LA. 222.00 sqm
Lot 1 Blk 5 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 36,000.00
LOT 143 - VACANT LOT
LA 210.00 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 5 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 34,000.00
LOT 144 - VACANT LOT
LA 210.00 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 5 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 34,000.00
LOT 145 - VACANT LOT
LA. 222.00 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 5 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 36,000.00
LOT 146 - VACANT LOT
LA 195.00 sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 6 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 147 - VACANT LOT
LA. 198.00 sqm
Lot 17 Blk 7 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00
LOT 148 - LOT W/ IMPROVEMENT
LA 964.00 sqm.
FA 57.00 sqm.
Lot 12-G-9-E-1 Subd Road Cagape Subd., San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 591,000.00
LOT 149 - VACANT LOT
LA 4,840.00 sqm.
Lot 12-G-9-F Subd. Road Cagape Subd., San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 1,916,000.00
LOT 150 - LOT W/ IMPROVEMENT
LA 728.00 sqm
FA 297.00 sqm.
L306 Del Pilar St
Minimum Bid Price 1,542,000.00

- GUARANTEED FINANCING-FIXED INTEREST UP TO 10YRS
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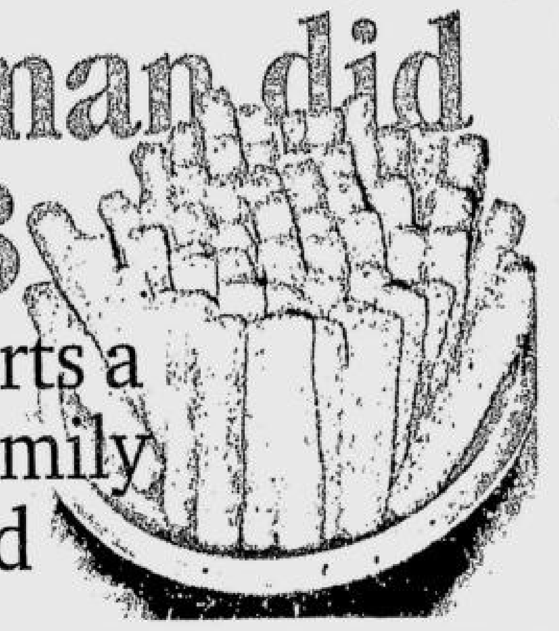
Sunday BIZ

LIBERTY Agapay with her sweet stuff. Right, a photo of "tinagaktak, " a sweet crispy delicacy made of ground rice.



What this woman did with her P198

Mother of four starts a business from a family tradition she hated

By Andrea Trinidad-Echavez
Contributor

DIPOLOG CITY—WHAT CAN you buy with P198? Not much these days. But for Liberty Agapay, it was just what she needed to start her own business more than eight years ago.

Hardly making ends meet, then 25-year-old Liberty thought of a business that she could do at home while taking care of her two very young kids. She had just given birth to her and common-law-husband Gerry Ontalan's second child.

With another mouth to feed, Liberty could hardly imagine how to budget the meager earnings of Gerry who was then working as a carpenter in Dipolog City and the nearby areas.

"Life was so hard even when we only had two kids. I had to think of something to help my husband," shares Liberty, who has since given birth to two more children.

She had always wanted to do a home-based business. With no fixed monthly income for the family, getting someone else to take care of the Ontalan kids was out of question. But what business would allow her to stay home? And where could she possibly source her start-up capital?

Resolved to help her husband get their young family out of poverty, Liberty thought of trying to do what she knows best—make and sell her family's best-kept tradition of "tinagaktak, " a sweet crispy delicacy made of ground rice.

"Tinagaktak has been passed on in our family from generation to generation. By force, I learned how cook it from my mother," Liberty quips in Cebuano. She practically grew up selling tinagaktak. Yet, Liberty muses, she hated it.

"It's quite laborious. I really hated it when my mother would ask me to grind the rice and mix the ingredients. But as a daughter, I had to obey her," she says.

Little did Liberty know that the very chore she hated in her younger years would turn out to be the saving grace for her own growing family—now composed of herself, hubby Gerry; Geraldine, 11; Jarnella Mae, 8; Gerel Jay, 5 and John, 2.

"I didn't know what else to do, so I decided to start with what I knew best. I have secret ingredients that make my tinagaktak stand out," Liberty enthuses.

And so with her simple business plan in mind but a great determination to succeed, Liberty gathered all the courage to talk to the owner of the neighborhood store and asked if she could, by any chance, be allowed to loan a few kilos of rice, edible oil, some eggs and sugar.

"I explained that I wanted to help augment my husband's income by starting my own business. Those ingredients were all I needed to start," Liberty shares. Thankfully, the gracious owner allowed her to purchase the ingredients, payable when able.

Out of the loaned ingredients, the aspiring tinagaktak entrepreneur managed to make 200 pieces of the delicacy. Next, she set out for the big city with great expectation she would succeed.

Plying the streets of Dipolog and going from office to office, she would offer her product just to anybody who cared to buy. By the end of the day, Liberty happily sold everything.

Indeed, Liberty was ecstatic. She made a good profit margin and it was only her first try. As she was about to go home, another surprise came. An employee of the provincial capitol was celebrating her birthday and ordered a big bulk.

The bulk order was followed by another, and another, and yet another until in a few months time, Liberty's husband Gerry, had to stop working to help her in the business.

As their business grew, so did the need for capitalization. They had to buy equipment like a gas range and big frying pans to keep up with the orders.

"We realized we needed more capital. While our business was picking up, we did not know how or where to source the much-needed capital," Liberty laments.

In 2004, Liberty heard of Taytay sa Kauswagan Inc. (TSKI), a micro-finance institution that offered loan facilities to micro-entrepreneurs like her. With business expansion in mind, Liberty availed herself of a P3,000 loan.

The loan enabled Liberty and husband Gerry to increase production. In due time, they were able to save up to buy the equipment they needed. Because they had been good payors, Liberty and her husband continually enjoyed fresh loans to increase their capitalization.

"Since I was already peddling tinagaktak for about seven years, orders kept on increasing. We had to cope up with it or else we would lose our clients," says Liberty, who by now, had learned to do her own style of marketing.

Slowly but surely, Liberty and her husband kept on expanding their business. On good days, the couple could earn P12,000 per week—a big leap from what they were earning seven years ago. They even managed to buy their own house and lot, thanks to their earnings from tinagaktak.

Liberty's tinagaktak has become so popular that it is now a staple in Dipolog City's Pasalubong Center.

"We are so grateful to TSKI for trusting us. If not for the break they gave us, we would not have been able to reach this far," says Liberty.

Despite the success of her business, the "tinagaktak magnate," as some call her, has far greater dreams.

While balikbayans and visitors never leave Dipolog without her homemade delicacy, Liberty hopes to expand her market to Manila and even abroad.

"That is our long-term plan -- to bring our product out of Dipolog," she says.

And with strong determination, hardwork and a little help from TSKI, no doubt Liberty will soon be able to realize the dream.

GIGI Ngui

Setting the 'gold' standard

GIGI NGUI OF GOLDTECH IS ONE distributor who takes pride in getting her hands "dirty". That is, getting involved in every facet of her office furniture/IT business. "The devil is in the details as the saying goes," quips Gigi. "Nonetheless, I'm also a firm believer in empowering my people through delegation. I know when to let go and let them shine."

This overriding management philosophy of Goldtech has become its most potent arsenal in securing an enviable niche in the fiercely competitive distributorship field. From a mere three-man enterprise involved in the assembly and sale of office furniture/equipment in 1990, the company has grown to a 120-strong well-trained and dynamic employees today.

"Diversifying holds the key to Goldtech's sustained growth over the years. Our initial foray into the burgeoning IT business in the early '90s was a well-paid gamble," Gigi recounts. Goldtech's importation and distribution of chassis (computer case) became so successful that the company began forging partnerships with like Samsung Electronics, an acknowledged global leader in digital media and convergence technology. Moreover, applying Goldtech's trusted management and operations style cum diversifying formulas in 1997 saw the growth of Silya, Mesa, Atbp, distributing well-crafted office furniture and partitions.

Goldtech's office in 464 Lt. Artiaga St. San Juan, Metro Manila does not only house its office furniture line; it also carries the latest premium computer devices and gadgets. The store is a must-stop for the certified "techie". "From a techie scale of one-to-ten, I rate myself an eight—knowledgeable yet still learning," Gigi reveals. "While I can't live without my cellphone and laptop, I must say that I love all the products that we sell in Goldtech."

With a projected 20 percent growth for 2006, Goldtech is prepared to weather its ample share of daily challenges: cutthroat competition, price wars, and obsolescence, service and client complaints. "Like a real pro, our team face them with utmost patience, aggressiveness, courtesy and professionalism," Gigi, VP-Sales of Goldtech, shares.

One of Goldtech's key success factors is to ensure that its dealers get the proper logistical support to make sure its dealers sells as much Samsung products as they can. She gives credit to their loyal client base that are always supporting them and who have stuck with them through thick and thin. "I partly owe what little success I have to our dealers, many so who have become my close friends".

The store has another ace in the way Gigi interacts with their customers, as well as brainstorms and even argues with her staff. "I am a people person," she volunteers. "I al-

SETTING/ B3

Office workers get hands dirty

By Joey Zaballero
Contributor

TEAM HSBC and their build partners Team Butuan

I DISTINCTLY REmember the day when the news of the latest Leyte landslide came out. I was glued to the television watching the spotty coverage of people struggling against the mud in an effort to rescue survivors. I remember telling my wife what a tragedy this was and I remember thinking to myself that I wish I could do more than just rummage through my cabinet to see what I could donate for the inevitable aid drive that was to follow.

True enough, aid drives were organized at all levels, from local churches to corporate donations and having donated, I felt that I had done my job. That was until several weeks after when I received an internal memo addressed to all staff of HSBC, the bank that I work for. At first it didn't seem very different from the other corporate social responsibility projects that the bank has sponsored.

HSBC has always been involved in environmental and social projects from saving dugongs in Palawan to building multi-media learning centers for public elementary schools. More recently however, the bank was also involved in a different kind of social project, ones organized by Gawad Kalinga and the latest call for volunteers was slightly different from the previous projects HSBC was involved in.

HSBC has supported Gawad Kalinga by adopting two sites, one in Imus Cavite and another in General Tinio Nueva Ecija for 100 homes. They would send bus loads of volunteers to try their hand at good old fashioned house building for a day, a mean feat for otherwise office bound and keyboard tapping office workers.

This latest call for help was called the Gawad Kalinga 1MB (short for Isang Milyong Bayani) Bayani Challenge. The objective was simple enough, go to the site and build a house for the Leyte landslide survivors. I could tell this was not your usual volunteer job.

For one it would span a period of 6 days, no going home the next day to relax at a spa and allow your aching body to recover. The location would not be in Metro Manila or its outskirts as this project was situated in Leyte close to what the locals called the tragic ground zero of the Leyte landslide. The objective was to help build houses for the landslide survivors. The call for help was easy to answer. HSBC would provide the materials and cover all the costs of the volunteers including vacation leave for all volunteers. But for all nine volunteers who did, the chance to help out was the main draw.

Before I knew it and after a flight to Cebu, a two- hour ferry ride to Hilongos and another two hour land trip to St. Bernard, me and my fellow volunteers from HSBC found ourselves at what would be our home for the next six days—a bare meadow behind what would be future site of the houses. The briefing did say we should bring tents and sleeping bags but when you are actually at the site thinking about the next few days you get the creeping feeling that one may have bitten off more than one could chew Not to be fazed, we put up our tents and organized our team.

The Bayani Challenge was simple enough—organize yourselves into teams of 15 and work on two set-ups. The first set-up was a bare lot which we had to dig the foundations and build a seven layer wall of hollow-blocks. Seven layers only since I don't think they trusted us to build anything higher—they didn't want the survivors to undergo any more stressful events such as an unstable house I assume.

The second set-up consisted of a semi finished house, basically the walls and the roof beams were in place and for this one the teams were tasked to basically finish the house—fill the foundation, lay down the cement floor, smoothen the rough hollow block walls, paint the house and install the roof.

The project management side of our white collar brain was confident. This was going to be a push over we thought.

The coming days however proved otherwise and it did not take us long to realize this fact. Teamed up with members of our sister company, HSBC HDPP, who had spare volunteers, we headed off to set-up one. Within 30 minutes of starting the dig for the foundation, I was sweating, getting thirsty and the progress I was making was minimal. It as a good shot in the arm, all of us suddenly realized, that we were no longer in the confines of our office cubicle where work was defined by how much paper we were able to process from our inboxes/intrays. This time work was defined by the limits of our physical strengths and our determination to get things done. Unfortunately, there is a certain amount of building skills that would also be involved when putting up a house and none of us had any. And so for a while our determination and strength carried us forward. Luckily digging the trench for the foundation of the walls only required us to do this in a straight line and we could handle that. Even getting the raw materials, cement, gravel, hollow blocks and sand was something we could handle even though this was a struggle in its own right. The human chains we used in our Metro Manila builds where we had bus loads of HSBC volunteers had now dwindled down to 15 people and so we transformed ourselves to human pack mules.

Although we had a build marshal to guide us through our tasks, we could see our progress was dismal but help I seemed, was not too far away. As a matter of fact, help was right next door with the team building the house next to us. Team Barangay Concepcion - Buwayang Bato as a group of volunteers that came from Metro Manila too.

Being Gawag Kalinga housing recipients themselves, they make it a point to volunteer for GK builds in a form of payback but what made this group more amazing was that they had come overland, a two-day trip, to participate. More importantly, to us at that point in time, they had more than enough of the skills we lacked and through the help of their team leader, Tito Dolphy, they guided us with the tasks at hand.

All of a sudden Team HSBC was rejuvenated and it looked like we were back on track in actually achieving our objectives. This bayanihan spirit was even more evident in Day 2 when the organizers lined up the team from those that made the most progress to the team that made the least and swapped team members to assist in each other's efforts. We were happy to be in the middle of this ranking and as luck would have it the team that we were coupled with was another skilled one in building houses. Team Butuan, from Mindanao, also had members in it that were GK recipients but for the most part, the team members were volunteers. Speaking more Visaya than Tagalog didn't hamper our progress and strangely enough provided for great conversation. They taught us the proper way to mix cement, straighten our otherwise crooked walls and provided great camaraderie.

By the end of the build, Team HSBC, with help from our neighbors and team Butuan, managed a decent showing. Our set-up 1 was completely finished and our set-up 2 had significant improvements done to it by the time we had finished, which made our build marshal, who would have to finish the house, quite happy.

On our last night, the teams had a chance to say goodbye to each other during the farewell party. Before the festivities however, a group of people took to the stage and presented themselves. Although the spokesman spoke in Visaya, the tagalog speakers could make out a few of his words and our newly found visayan friends filled in the blanks. He had words describing a beautiful barangay that had everything going for it. He described how it flourished with rice and fishing providing the people a means of livelihood and how life was good. And how all of

OFFICE/ B3

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

sms feedback: inquirer life na (Globe) and 386 (Smart)

Manila braces for 'Queer' invasion

THE CAST of the Emmy award-wining "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy": Food and wine specialist Ted Allen, beauty and health expert Kyan Douglas, fashion guru Carson Kressley, interior designer Thom Filicia, and culture expert Jai Rodriguez

They're here, they're queer, and you better get used to 'it'

AYALA MALLS IS bringing the complete cast of the hit reality TV show, "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy," to Manila on July 20-22.

In the show, five gay stylists choose a style-deficient straight guy and transform him into a charming, smartly dressed, nicely groomed lad.

After five years of reinventing drab men into fab men in their show, the five have become stars in their own right, with legions of fans. They are Carson Kressley, Kyan Douglas, Thom Filicia, Jai Rodriguez and Ted Allen.

Last year, Kyan, the grooming guru, and Thom, the design doctor, came to Manila to share grooming and interior-design tips.

This month, all five hosts of "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" are coming to Manila to check out Pinoy men and give them style first-aids.

Kressley, the blond fashionista who coined the word "tsuzh" (to refer to the way a shirt's cuff, a pant's hem, or a waistband is uniquely folded), is easily the most famous.

He has authored a children's tome, "You're Different and That's Super," and the style guide, "Off the Cuff: The Essential Guide for Men and Women Who Love Them," in which Kressley gives guys a step-by-step guide to fashion. He also made a cameo in the Hilary Duff-Heather Locklear starrer, "The Perfect Man."

Good-looking and stylish Kyan Douglas is a specialist in men's skin care and has had extensive training and professional experience in the hair, spa and retail industries. He has worked as a colorist for television and magazine projects, including TLC's "What Not To Wear," "While You Were Out," and Child Magazine.

Jai Rodriguez is the culture vulture who has appeared in last year's production of "The Producers" and has even essayed the role of the transvestite Angel in "Rent."

But Rodriguez is more popularly known as the guy who dishes out advice on etiquette and social graces on "Queer Eye."

His television and film success has inspired Rodriguez to put up his own cabaret at the XL Lounge in New York City, "Monday Night Twisted Cabaret."

Top designer

Named among House Beautiful's top 100 American designers, Thom Filicia is a designer who blends mass media and interior design. He has won an Emmy nomination for art direction and has established his own interior design company in New York City, Thom Filicia Inc., which specializes in both residential and commercial products. Filicia and TFI designed the United States pavilion for the 2005 World's Fair in Aichi, Japan.

Finally, there's Ted Allen, who teaches guys how to negotiate the complications of the kitchen and the dinner table.

A contributing editor to Esquire since 1997, Allen is co-author of the "Things a Man Should Know" column in the magazine—an irreverent guide for men on fashion, sex, business etiquette, and cocktails. He has co-authored four books that grew out of that series.

Allen was finalist for a 2001 National Magazine Award for his June 2000 feature on male breast cancer, and again in 2003 for an Esquire food-and-travel package.

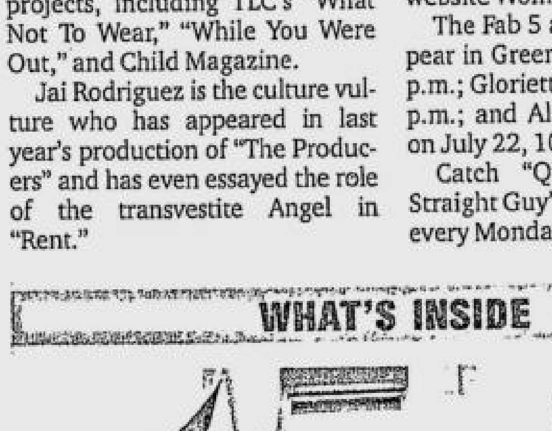
Before joining Esquire, Ted was a senior editor and restaurant critic of Chicago magazine. where he interviewed such food luminaries as Mario Batali, Martha Stewart, Paul Bocuse, Trotter, Rick Tramonto, Gale Gand and Rick Bayless.

Allen also has written a column on wine and spirits, "In the Spirit: The Intelligent Barfly," for the website Women.com.

The Fab 5 are scheduled to appear in Greenbelt on July 20, 7-8 p.m.; Glorietta on July 21, 4-5:30 p.m.; and Alabang Town Center on July 22, 10-11:30 a.m.

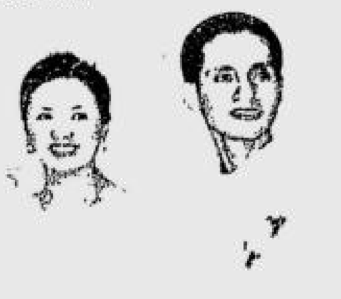
Catch "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" exclusively on ETC, every Monday at 9 p.m.

WHAT'S INSIDE

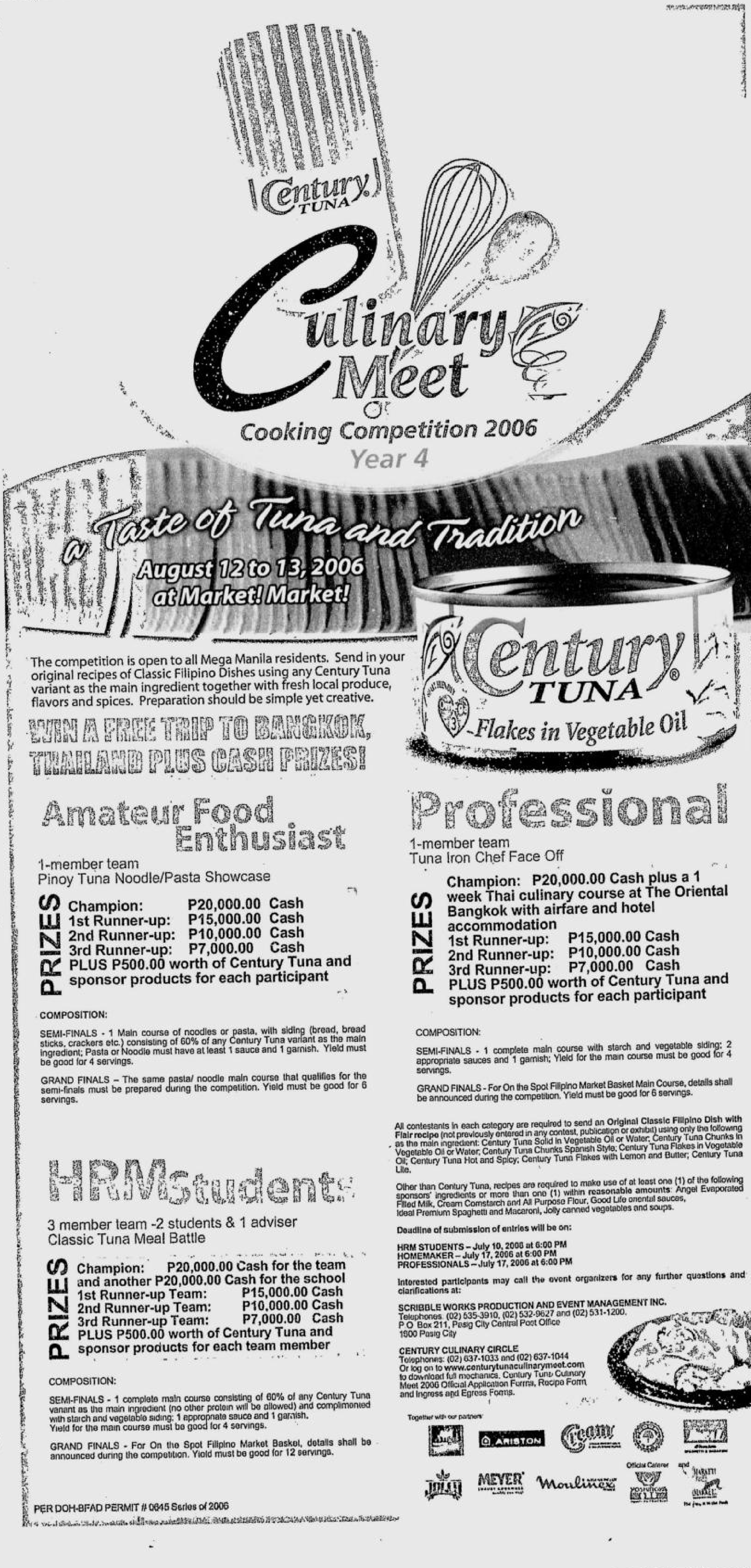


RP National Day in San Francisco /C2

Open letter from the mother of the bride /F2



Pitoy Moreno conquers Washington /E2



Century TUNA

Culinary Meet

Cooking Competition 2006

Year 4

a Taste of Tuna and Tradition

August 12 to 13, 2006 at Market! Market!

The competition is open to all Mega Manila residents. Send in your original recipes of Classic Filipino Dishes using any Century Tuna variant as the main ingredient together with fresh local produce, flavors and spices. Preparation should be simple yet creative.

WIN A FREE TRIP TO BANGKOK, THAILAND PLUS CASH PRIZES!

Century® TUNA Flakes in Vegetable Oil

Amateur Food Enthusiast

1-member team
Pinoy Tuna Noodle/Pasta Showcase

PRIZES
Champion: P20,000.00 Cash
1st Runner-up: P15,000.00 Cash
2nd Runner-up: P10,000.00 Cash
3rd Runner-up: P7,000.00 Cash
PLUS P500.00 worth of Century Tuna and sponsor products for each participant

COMPOSITION:

SEMI-FINALS - 1 Main course of noodles or pasta, with siding (bread, bread sticks, crackers etc.) consisting of 60% of any Century Tuna variant as the main ingredient; Pasta or Noodle must have at least 1 sauce and 1 garnish. Yield must be good for 4 servings.

GRAND FINALS – The same pasta/ noodle main course that qualifies for the semi-finals must be prepared during the competition. Yield must be good for 6 servings.

Professional

1-member team
Tuna Iron Chef Face Off

PRIZES
Champion: P20,000.00 Cash plus a 1 week Thai culinary course at The Oriental Bangkok with airfare and hotel accommodation
1st Runner-up: P15,000.00 Cash
2nd Runner-up: P10,000.00 Cash
3rd Runner-up: P7,000.00 Cash
PLUS P500.00 worth of Century Tuna and sponsor products for each participant

COMPOSITION:

SEMI-FINALS - 1 complete main course with starch and vegetable siding; 2 appropriate sauces and 1 garnish; Yield for the main course must be good for 4 servings.

GRAND FINALS - For On the Spot Filipino Market Basket Main Course, details shall be announced during the competition. Yield must be good for 6 servings.

HRM Students

3 member team -2 students & 1 adviser
Classic Tuna Meal Battle

PRIZES
Champion: P20,000.00 Cash for the team and another P20,000.00 Cash for the school
1st Runner-up Team: P15,000.00 Cash
2nd Runner-up Team: P10,000.00 Cash
3rd Runner-up Team: P7,000.00 Cash
PLUS P500.00 worth of Century Tuna and sponsor products for each team member

COMPOSITION:

SEMI-FINALS - 1 complete main course consisting of 60% of any Century Tuna variant as the main ingredient (no other protein will be allowed) and complimented with starch and vegetable siding; 1 appropriate sauce and 1 garnish. Yield for the main course must be good for 4 servings.

GRAND FINALS - For On the Spot Filipino Market Basket, details shall be announced during the competition. Yield must be good for 12 servings.

All contestants in each category are required to send an **Original Classic Filipino Dish with Flair recipe** (not previously entered in any contest, publication or exhibit) using only the following as the main ingredient: Century Tuna Solid in Vegetable Oil or Water; Century Tuna Chunks in Vegetable Oil or Water; Century Tuna Chunks Spanish Style; Century Tuna Flakes in Vegetable Oil; Century Tuna Hot and Spicy; Century Tuna Flakes with Lemon and Butter; Century Tuna Lite.

Other than Century Tuna, recipes are required to make use of at least one (1) of the following sponsors' ingredients or more than one (1) within reasonable amounts: Angel Evaporated Filled Milk, Cream Cornstarch and All Purpose Flour, Good Life oriental sauces, Ideal Premium Spaghetti and Macaroni, Jolly canned vegetables and soups.

Deadline of submission of entries will be on:

HRM STUDENTS – July 10, 2006 at 6:00 PM
HOMEMAKER – July 17, 2006 at 6:00 PM
PROFESSIONALS – July 17, 2006 at 6:00 PM

Interested participants may call the event organizers for any further questions and clarifications at:

SCRIBBLE WORKS PRODUCTION AND EVENT MANAGEMENT INC.
Telephones: (02) 535-3910, (02) 532-9627 and (02) 531-1200.
P.O. Box 211, Pasig City Central Post Office
1600 Pasig City

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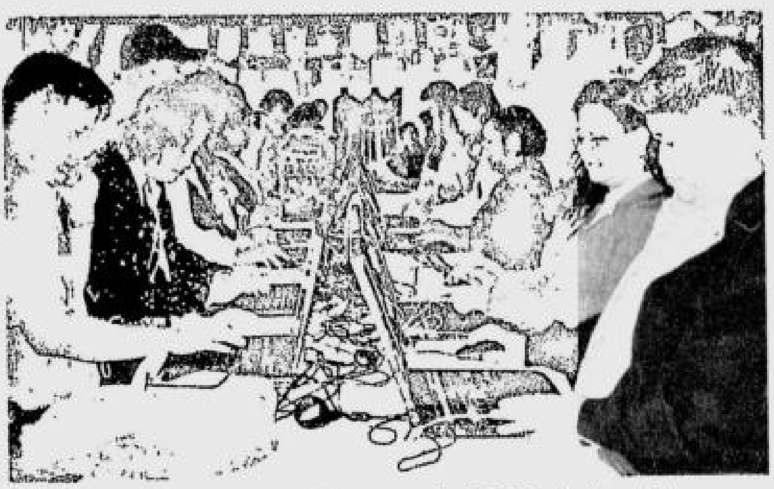

WHILE young people eagerly log on to the DOT website, older Filipinos prefer to fill up forms.

THE FIL-AM Veterans Rondalla, headed by George G. Gange as chief coordinator

THE GROUNDS of the Civic Center become a picnic place for Filipino families.

San Francisco celebrates a Philippine Independence weekend

Text and photos by Linda B. Bolido

STALLS offer everything from books to real estate, food to courier service.

WITH the imposing San Francisco City Hall before them, Filipinos check out various stalls of Fiesta Filipina.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA'S CITY by the Bay, had a two-day Filipino fiesta recently.

Held at the grounds of the Civic Center, with the imposing domed City Hall across, it was almost typical of this traditional Filipino celebration—featuring speeches, *tiangge*, musical presentations, Pinoy food, beauty contests, *rondalla*, rides and even games—except that each day had to begin at 10 and end by 6 p.m., and the games were not the usual *karera ng daga*, bingo or ball-throwing where winners get a couple of drinking glasses or plates, or a little cash.

And the event was not in honor of a patron saint, as Philippine fiestas traditionally are.

San Francisco's Fiesta Filipina, now on its 12th year, was a prelude to Philippine Independence Day on June 12. As the historic day fell on a Monday, Filipinos enjoyed an Independence weekend.

Though it was cold despite its being summer in the United States, Bay Area Pinoys of all ages came in droves, eager to check out the goods on offer, traditional Filipino foods and, this year, to watch ABS-CBN's game show, "Wowowee," and participate in its games.

But they also got to participate in a more high-tech kind of game.

Free tickets

By logging on to the website www.experiencephilippines.ph at the fiesta site, they became eligible to win one of 250 free plane seats being given away by Philippine Airlines through the Department of Tourism's new campaign, "The Philippines: Explore. Experience. Return."

Philippine consul general Ma. Rowena M. Sanchez and Tourism director for Northwestern USA Rene R. de los Santos formally launched the campaign during the event.

DOT set up a tent with Internet-ready laptop computers. Some of the old-timers preferred to fill up forms rather than go online, leaving it to DOT people to enter their names into the website.

SAN FRANCISCO-BASED Filipinos log on for a chance to win free return tickets to the Philippines.

The first 50 winners, drawn from early website visitors, were announced during the "Wowowee" show. Four more draws are being planned, according to Ma. Corazon Jorda-Apo, head of DOT's Team North America, the dates to be announced on the website.

The choice of launch site for the new DOT promotion and the vehicle used to draw participants are clear indications of the campaign's targets—Filipinos in North America, particularly the more technology savvy younger generations, as well as American and Canadian citizens.

This year's Fiesta Filipina for Bay Area Pinoys included 'online gaming' organized by the Department of Tourism

Update

Asian Institute of Management professor Tomas B. Lopez Jr., who helped DOT conceptualize the campaign, said the promo was basically an update of the successful Balikbayan program launched decades ago.

But it recognizes the fact that many young Filipino-Americans, belonging to the second or third generation, may no longer have memories of, much less emotional ties to the Philippines, unlike the group the Balikbayan program reached out to.

And, as Tourism Usec. Oscar P. Palabyab pointed out, these second and third generation Fil-Ams were generally "computer literate." It is estimated that more than 80 percent of about 3.3 million Fil-Ams in North America go online.

The campaign slogan represents a promise for every type of visitor from North America. "Explore" is for the first-time visitor. It invites him/her to just see and enjoy the Philippines. "Experience" is for a "returnee," an invitation to try to have a more in-depth knowledge of the country, a feel for its various attractions. "Return" is, needless to say, targeted specifically at *kababayan*—an appeal to let themselves be reintroduced to their country and see that, contrary to misconceptions, the Philippines has moved into the 21st century.

This is why a complementary package is the "Out of the Box" promo for those who will accept the invitation. Lopez said visitors would "bring back" from the Philippines not the usual age-old souvenirs but items that bespoke of a country well into the current century.

Tourism Sec. Joseph Ace Durano said, when he announced the new campaign to the local media earlier, the *balikbayan* box would contain items representative of a country very much into the 21st century "to change the perception that we are still backward."

Actually, the visitor could not really bring back to the US or Canada some of the stuff in the mixed bag—rather box—that include goodies from such sponsors as Abenson, American Eye Center, Avis, Globe Telecom, Kuok Group and Philippine National Bank. The gifts include discounted hotel accommodations and a fully furnished condominium unit.

Diverse packages

Jorda-Apo said, in anticipation of the diverse ages and interests of the expected visitors from North America, the DOT had packages that ranged from adventure to wellness tours.

Lopez said the campaign aimed to offer something for everyone so that whole families visiting the Philippines did not have to stay all in one place for the duration of their trip.

He pointed out that younger Fil-Ams, meeting relatives who were virtual strangers, would not feel as comfortable as their parents spending all their time at home during their visit. So alternatives should be presented to the younger visitors to make their stay enjoyable.

Lopez said the online gaming would also collect basic information needed by the DOT to fine-tune its campaigns. For website visitors, the more information they provide, the more raffle entries they get.

Fiesta Filipina 2006 was capped by the raising of the Filipino flag on Independence Day at the San Francisco City Hall balcony by Mayor Gavin Newsom and Sanchez. Newsom officially proclaimed June 12 as Philippine Heritage Day.

SAN FRANCISCO Mayor Gavin Newsom listens to Consul General Ma. Rowena M. Sanchez's Independence Day speech. Beside him is E. Dennis Normandy, chair of the San Francisco-Manila Sister City Committee.

"KAWIT," San Francisco. The balcony of the city hall is a more opulent version of the balcony of Emilio Aguinaldo's house in Cavite where the Philippine flag was raised after the proclamation of the country's independence in 1898.

Mobile phone store opens 6th branch

THE COUNTRY'S SIXTH SONY ERICSSON Concept Shop has opened at the SM Mall of Asia.

To celebrate the event, Sony Ericsson is giving away free items with every purchase of a Sony Ericsson handset. The store bears the distinctive Sony Ericsson retail design for the Asia Pacific.

Buyers of the candy bar-styled K300i camera phone, the 3G-capable K600i or the 1.3-megapixel S700i swivel-designed camera phone get a free additional charger. Every purchase of the J210i or clamshell Z300i comes with a free headset. A free extra BST 30/35 battery comes with the K700i, while the J220i, Z520i quadband clamshell phone with camera and 2-megapixel K750i camera phone come with free extra BST 37 battery.

Buyers of the J100i or J230i get a free Doraemon stuffed toy.

A purchase of a Sony Ericsson Walkman phone lets the customer choose from the Sony Ericsson Hot Picks CD collection—one CD with Sony Ericsson W550i Walkman, two with W800i, and three with 3G-capable W810i and W900i Walkman.

All purchases come with a full warranty.

The new Sony Ericsson Concept Shop also offers after-sales service, assuring fast service and the use of genuine parts.

On select weekends until July 31, visitors will also be treated to free demonstrations of the award-winning K750i and W810i, plus free photo printing for Sony Ericsson camera phones.

Seminar for school managers

AHEAD PROFESSIONAL NETwork (AheadPro) is offering the first "Leadership Strategies for School Managers" (LESSM) seminar-workshop July 7-8 at the La Salle Greenhills Lecture Hall in Mandaluyong City.

The two-day seminar covers topics such as school management, supervision and school leadership.

LESSM includes seven sessions by seasoned academics: Lilia Vengco (former principal of La Salle Greenhills; and Paascu chair); Dr. Leticia Penano-Ho (president of the Philippine Association of the Gifted and former dean, UP College of Education); and Dr. Cornelia Soto (veteran teacher trainer, former assistant headmaster of the Ateneo de Manila Grade School, and former Paascu chair).

AheadPro is a sister company of Ahead Tutorial and Review Center. It also conducts intensive English training, foreign language classes, and test preparation courses for the TOEFL, IELTS, GRE and GMAT. It has branches in Katipunan, Greenhills, SM Megamall, Robinsons Galleria and Dagupan.

Call 4260036 or 0917-8911187 or e-mail info@aheadph.com. LESSM is sponsored by Philippine Daily Inquirer and Radio Partners Inc.

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The best trainers facilitate the learning and relearning of basic English grammar. AheadPro's programs cover critical areas of language proficiency: reading, writing, listening and speaking for various purposes.

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Call 6360881 or 0917-5223373. Visit www.pro.aheadph.com.

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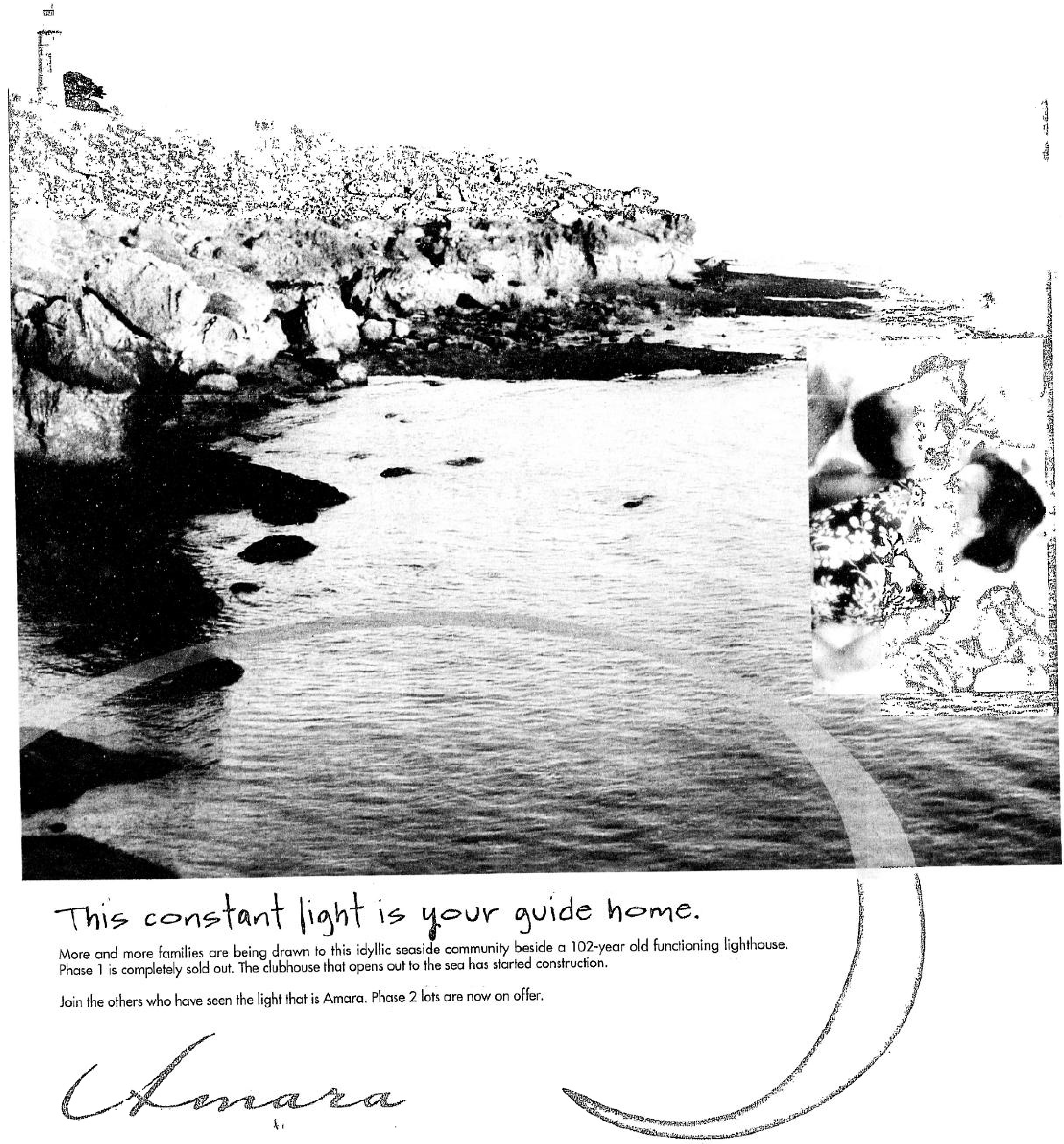

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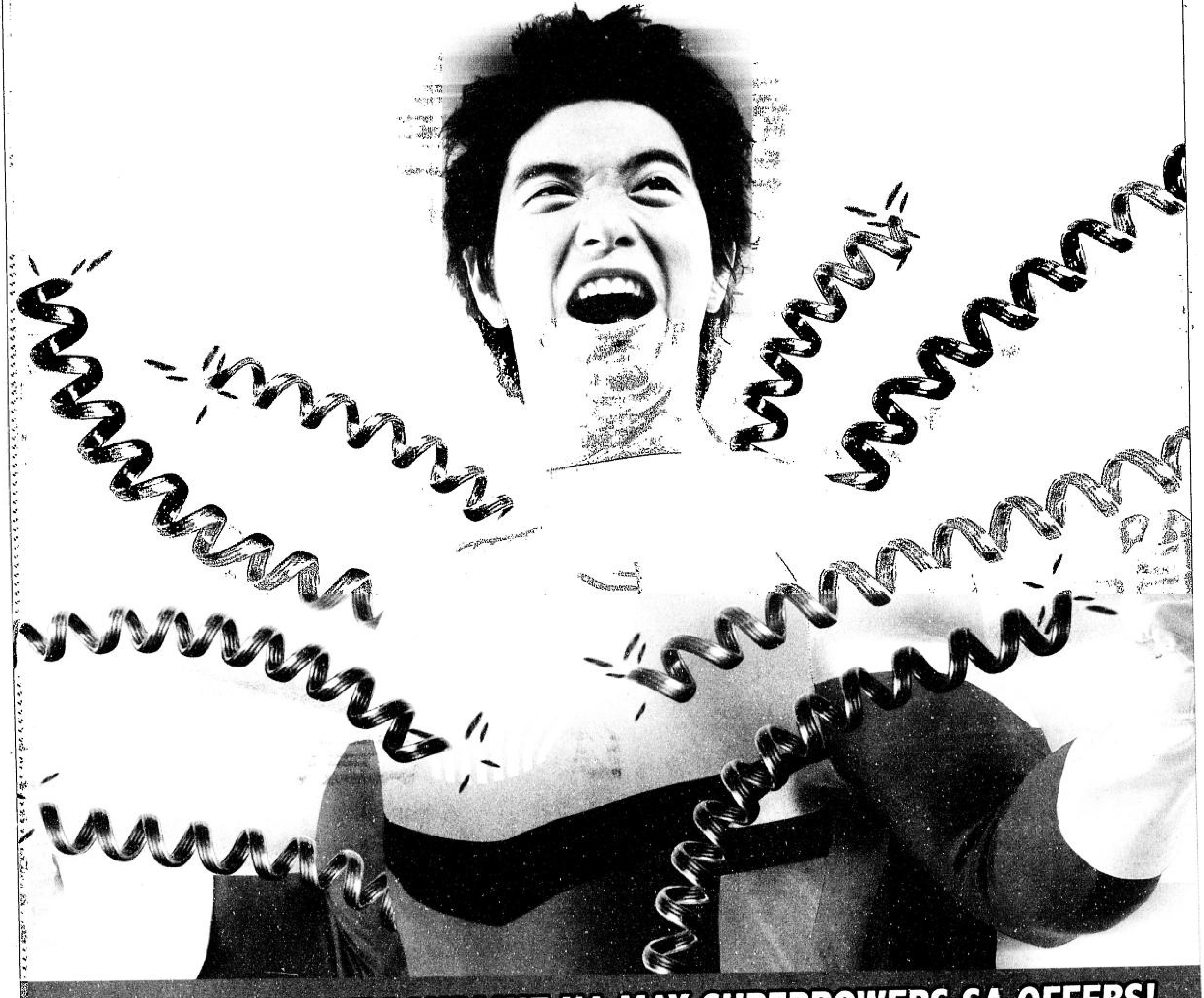

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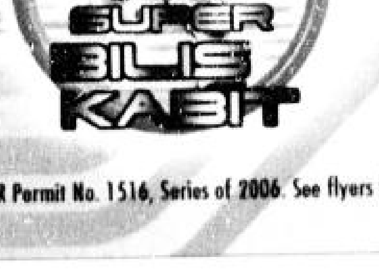

PLDT Iba Pa Rin Ang May PLDT Landline.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1516, Series of 2006. See flyers for details.

Sunday LifeStyle

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Text us your feedback:
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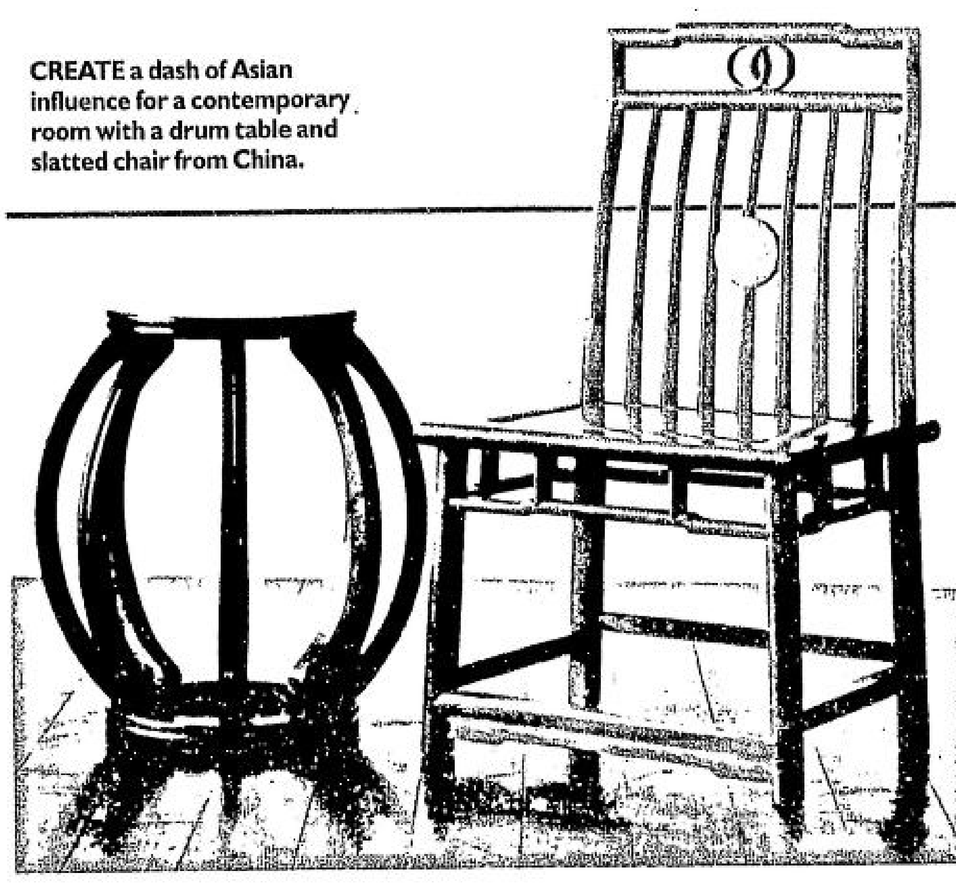
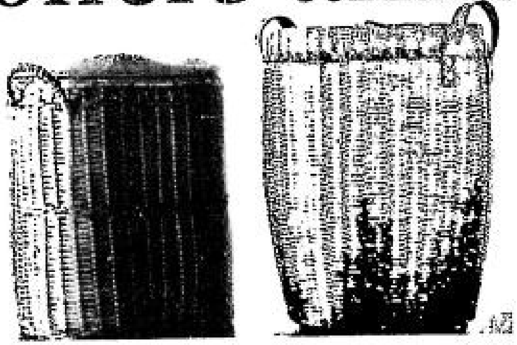
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Furniture shop offers anniversary sale



CREATE a dash of Asian influence for a contemporary room with a drum table and slatted chair from China.



ABACA storage and organizer accessories

CANDLEHOLDERS made of cullet glass

TO CELEBRATE ITS THIRD year and as a way of saying thank you to loyal patrons, Anna Marie Home has an ongoing anniversary sale with items at attractive prices.

Unlike other stores that stick to only one design concept, the place is a showcase of Anna's own eclectic yet very tasteful ideas.

"I am not too fond of matching everything to the last detail," Anna explains. "My sofa could have as many as 10 throw pillows with no two pieces alike. My table could be an antique glass-topped polished wood and my settings could be a mix of Philippine pottery dinnerware, chopsticks from China and Bangkok trays."

She also introduced the concept of repurposing or having a single piece serve many functions. A tall, slim cabinet can be used to keep files in the study or as a place to store knick-knacks anywhere in the house, while a storage cabinet with sliding cum folding doors can easily be transformed into a TV cabinet.

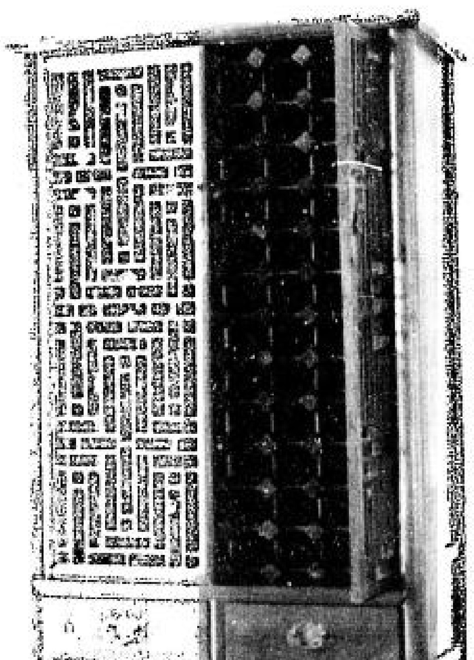
"One special furniture can lend an illusion of magnificence to a small space," says Anna.

At Anna Marie Home, Western-style sofas seamlessly blend in with a table of rough-hewn wood. A Chinese emperor's chair occupies a spot across a console table from Baguio. High-back chairs give way to tree stump seats at the head of the dining table.

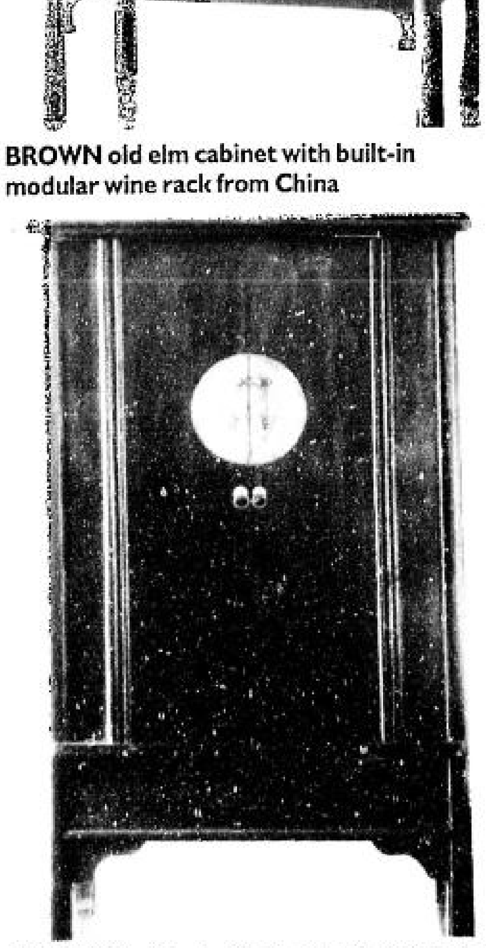
Though most of Anna Marie Home's furniture consists of Chinese antiques and reproductions, displays also include items from India, Morocco, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Australia and the Philippines.

The store also offers furniture (armoires, cabinets, dining tables); furniture decorators (chairs, stools, benches, side tables); home décor, home accessories, soft furnishings (throws, throw pillows, tablecloth) tabletop ware (plates, cups and saucers) and giftware.

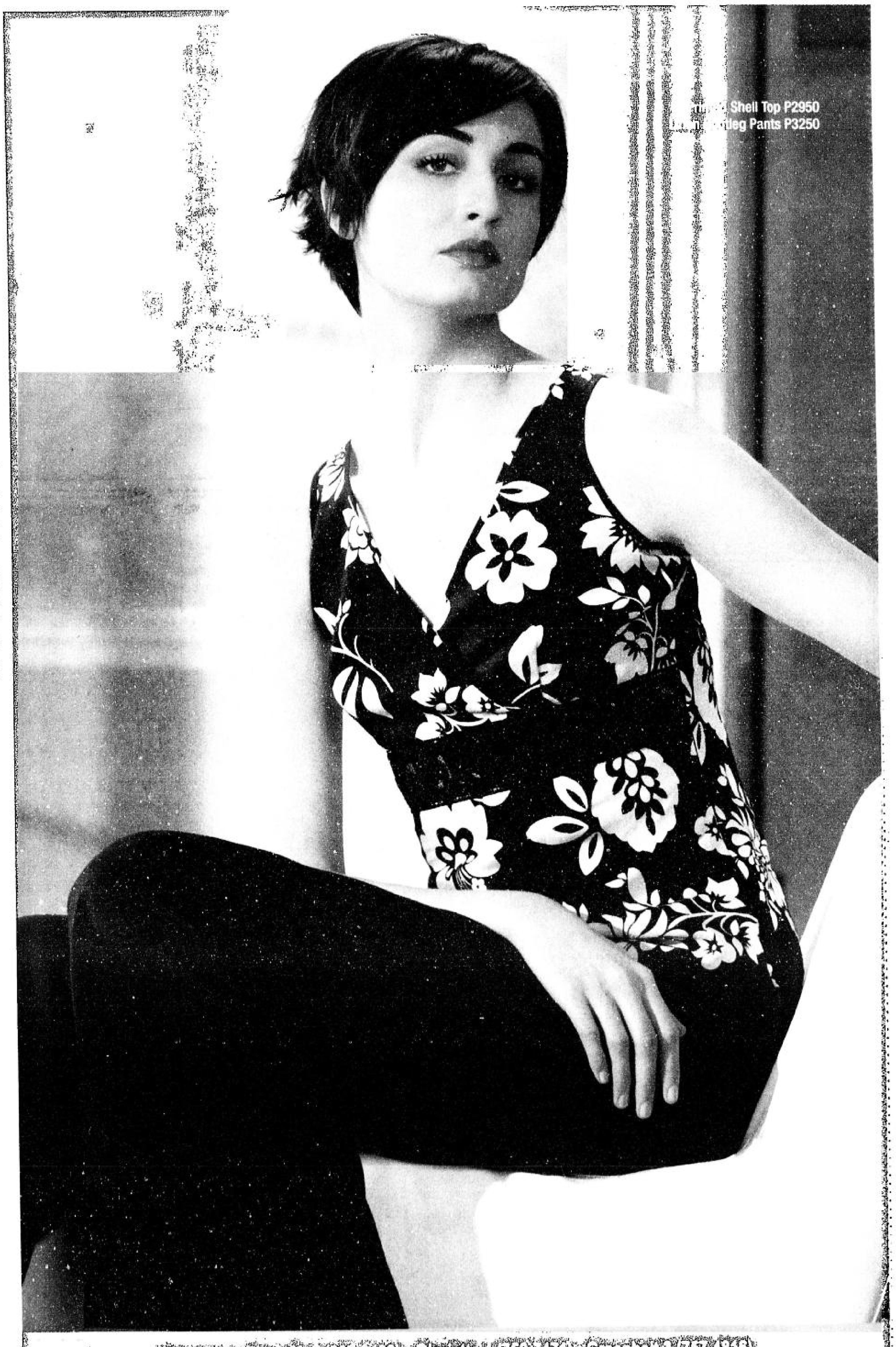
Anna Marie Home is located on the second level, Jupiter corner Planet Street, Bel-Air Village, Makati. Call 8950406/8998088 or visit www.annamariehome.com.



BROWN old elm cabinet with built-in modular wine rack from China

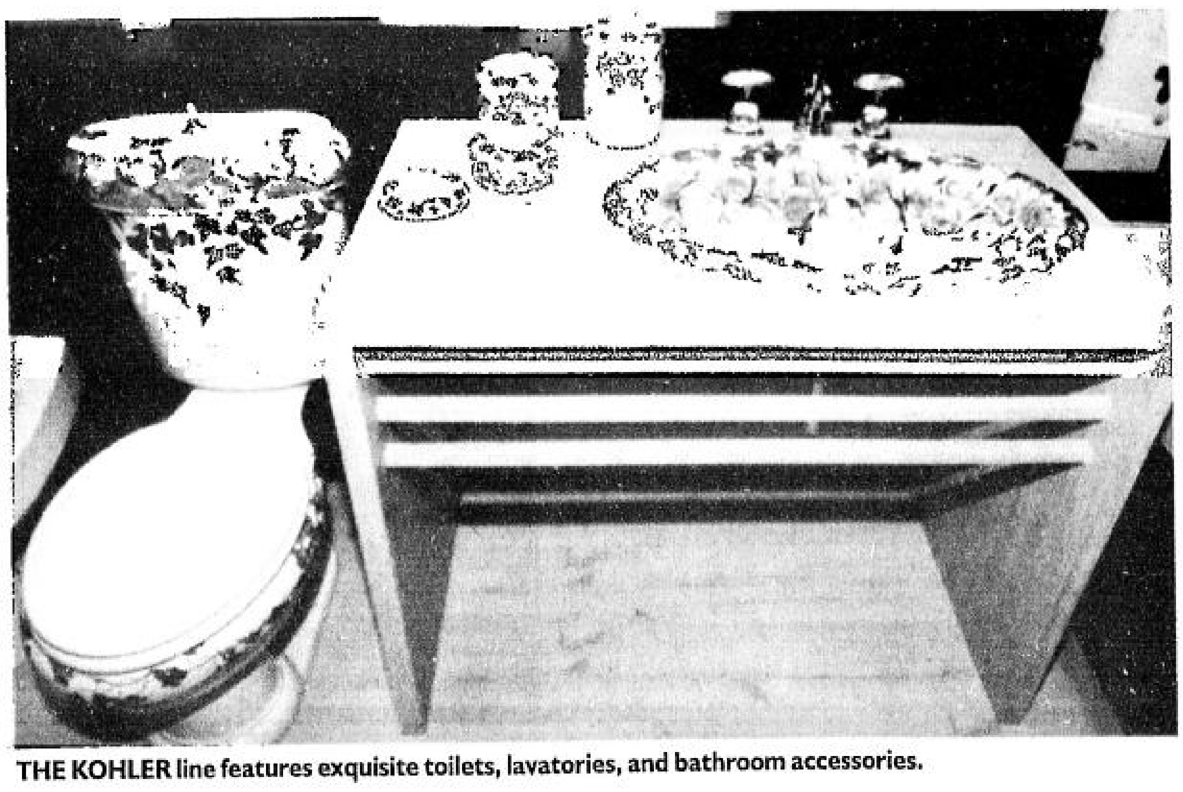


BROWN fir Ningbo Cabinet with sliding doors



Shangri-La Plaza Mall (637-2480) • Glorietta [illegible] (752-7471) • Greenbelt 3 (757-4816)
Alabang Town Center (842-4558) • SM Megamall A (632-0171) • Robinsons Place Manila (522-7871/76)
Rustan's Harrison Plaza (536-0857) • Power Plant Mall (898-0946-48) • Ayala Center Cebu (032-234-1005)
SM City Pampanga (045-963-9287/88) • Robinsons Galleria East Wing (634-4234)
Gateway Mall Araneta Center (912-8114 / 912-8339) • SM City North Edsa (927-7560/61)

Rustan Marketing Specialists Inc. (RMSI) is the official franchisee of Marks & Spencer in the Philippines



THE KOHLER line features exquisite toilets, lavatories, and bathroom accessories.

WILCON, primarily a tile store, offers a complete line of bathroom products, from local to foreign brands.

Haven of bathroom fixtures and tiles

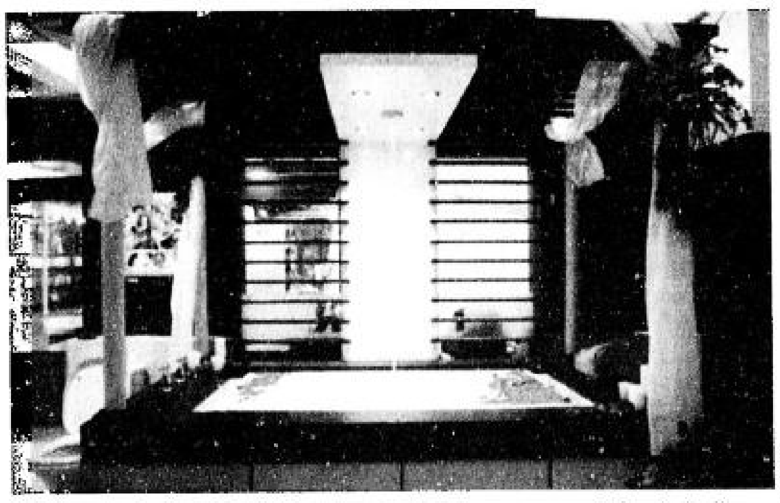
WILLIAM Belo, Jose Cortes, Gerry Contreras, Baby Arenas, Judy Reinke, Dr. Giacomo Nicastro, Stella Lee and Rose Ong

WILCON BUILDER'S DEPOT offers a complete line of bathroom products, from locally produced brands such as HCG and Toto, to high-quality foreign brands such as Kohler and Karat sanitary wares.

Bathroom fixtures complementing Wilcon's tile products include Italian brands Campani, Candia, Saime, Novabell and Isla, which feature both contemporary and classic Italian designs and trends.

Wilcon, which started as a small hardware store in Quezon City, has moved to a six-story building in Libis, Quezon City. The place has ample parking space, a kiddie play corner, and a coffee shop.

Wilcon Builder's Depot Libis is one of Wilcon's five warehouse-sized shops around Metro Manila that offer home-finishing products.



BATHROOM fixtures feature both contemporary and classic Italian designs and trends.

Wilcon's main product line has always been tiles. Not only does the company carry top local brands such as Mariwasa, Tenzen and Italfil, it also houses several Spanish companies such as Alcalagres, Grespania, Rocersa, Keros and Tesany.

Visit the Wilcon Builders' Depot at 90 Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Ugong Norte, Libis, QC; 8003 Real St., Las Piñas; 1274 Edsa Balintawak, QC; 2212 Pasong Tamo, Makati; L119 C1 Mindanao Ave., Brgy. Talipapa, QC; and B29 Alabang Zapote Road cor. Brideway Dist., Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa.

Call 6348387.

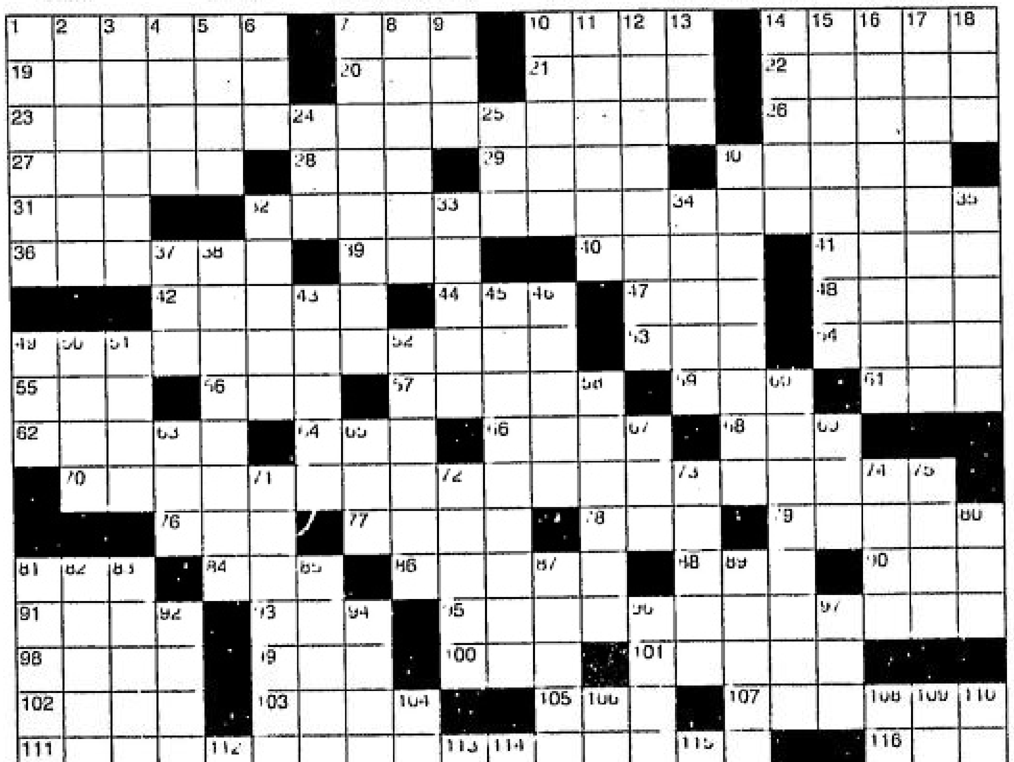
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

RING

ACROSS
1 Big mix-ups
7 Remote
10 Caesar's 1,950
14 Little leaf on a flower
19 Obtain by force
20 Employ
21 Inter — (among other things)
22 TV's "— Children"
23 When 123-Across is observed
26 Sphere
27 Inflatable boats
28 Hobo
29 Boulder
30 Papa Doc's domain
31 Suffix with plug or pay
32 123-Across event
36 Roman orator
39 Year, in Rio
40 Ill-natured
41 Trig function
42 Record store purchase
44 Kitten's cry
47 Historic lead-in
48 Peruvian of old
49 123-Across event
53 Mineo of "Giant"
54 Notices
55 China's Mao — -tung
56 Like many sr. citizens
57 Early computer
59 Bit of a chill
61 JFK jet, once
62 "Thanks, monsieur"
64 Come- — (lures)
66 North Carolina's — University
68 Dissenter's vote
70 Group closely associated with 123-Across
76 Diary writer Anais
77 Prison part
78 Mauna — (dormant volcano)
79 Salivate
81 Paramedic procedure
84 Zero
86 "Shalom"
88 Staff sgt., e.g.
90 Saucer in the sky
91 Swift horse
93 Java holder
95 123-Across symbol
98 TV co-host Kelly
99 — flash (pronto)
100 Fast Internet connection svc.
101 Actress Winona
102 Muscat locale
103 Singer Irene
105 Overhead railways
107 Miseries
111 123-Across event
116 Appliance setting
117 Like mumps
118 Ireland, in Ireland
119 — - for-profit
120 "Star Trek" lieutenant
122 1988 Olympics city
123 Theme of this puzzle
126 Go off, as a volcano
127 Creditor's claim
128 Sorrow
129 Profess
130 With 82-Down, trattoria dish
131 Final
132 Nav. rank
133 Cushioned

DOWN
1 Subway systems
2 Let a breath out
3 Tennis star Edberg
4 Squishy
5 Lovers' god
6 Erwin of film
7 Animated FOX series
8 Garbage collectors, in the past
9 Classic auto
10 Principal
11 Hen sounds
12 Weaklings
13 — siege to
14 Heroic narratives
15 What the punctuation mark "..." is called
16 Novels' main stories
17 Moods
18 Drain cleaner
24 Baseball card stat
25 To's partner
30 Menial worker
32 Aesop work
33 Girl, in time
34 When repeated, a pop band
35 Brewing stuff
37 H2O, in Le Havre
38 Allergy medication brand
43 Muckraker Sinclair
45 "The Ernie Kovacs Show" regular
46 "Can't — just get along?"
49 Bread machine?
50 Tiny fraction of a min.
51 Infamous emperor
52 Close again, as a change purse
58 "You Are So Beautiful" singer Joe
60 Reprieve granter
63 Wolf Blitzer's broadcaster
65 Improved partner
67 — Valley (San Francisco area)
69 "— dern tootin'!"
71 Hostilely adverse
72 Step
73 Mrs. Reagan
74 Essence
75 Divan
80 Daily record
81 Chocolate substitute
82 See 130-Across
83 Predatory
85 Of the moon
87 Star, briefly
89 Mooch
92 Financially ruined
94 Large, white flower
96 Sets of fed. income-tax rules
97 Pt. of TGIF
104 Endures
106 "Imagine" singer
108 Managed to avoid
109 Seek food
110 Moved back and forth
112 Ukrainian port
113 "— you clever!"
114 Business agt.
115 Sport- — (off-road vehicle)
120 West Coast sch.
121 Embraced
122 Aug. follower
123 Not in the pink
124 Female bleater
125 Short shuteye



answer on page F3

BOOTHS will showcase the best pieces in experts' collections.

Midyear garden show

THE PHILIPPINE HORTICULTURAL Society Inc. (PHSI) will have its midyear Horticulture 2006 Garden Show on July 28-Aug. 8 at the Manila Seedling Bank Environment Center, Quezon Avenue corner Edsa, QC.

The show will highlight ferns and aroids. Theme of the event is World Ethnic Gardens, according to overall chair PJ Nepomuceno.

The show will feature plant and landscape competitions, lectures, plant clinics, raffles and sales. Motif for this year's show is ethnic.

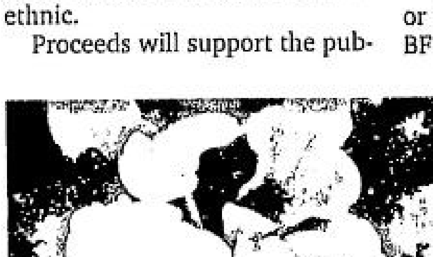
Proceeds will support the publication of the society's fern and aroid study groups' research books. The fern study group is headed by Anthony Arbias and the aroid research team is headed by Fernando Aurigue.

Competitions will involve ferns, aroids, orchid and ornamentals.

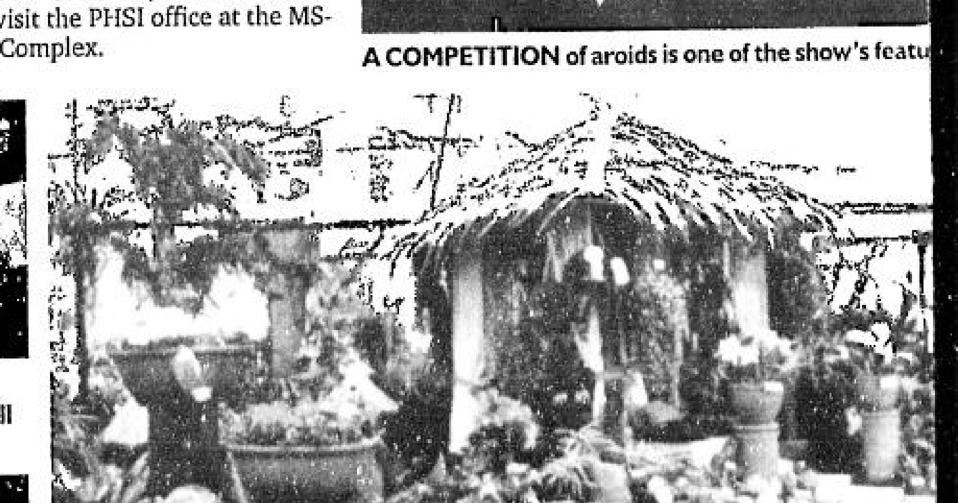
Co-chair Chat Alejandro said horticulture experts and plant specialists like Ray Santos, Roldan Abundo, Vic Chin Jr., Raf Eugenio, Dorie Bernabe, Fely Gupit, Ely Jocson, Serapion Metilla and Francis Gener will exhibit their best plants and do landscapes.

Call 4267581, 0918-2748471 or visit the PHSI office at the MSBF Complex.

A COMPETITION of aroids is one of the show's featu



AWARD-WINNING plants, like this euphorbia (above) and fern (below), will be displayed.



THIS ornamental booth was adjudged best last year.

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DILY designed bathroom showcases are available.

PHOTOS: ROMY HOMILLADA

Solution to bad reception

GREENTEK INDOOR AND OUTdoor antenna may be the solution to bad television and radio reception.

The antenna's 10dB amplification picks up weak signals while its 39" dipoles adjust and rotate for stronger pick-up.

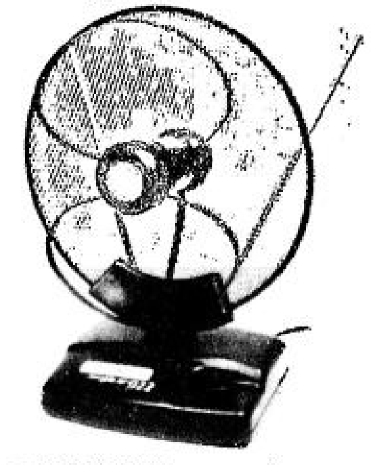
Greentek offers a wide range of choices. For indoor, the UVR-AV 022 comes with built-in high gain booster, gain control and dual function socket (P395). The UVR-AV 228 (P495) offers high gain and low noise, useable working voltage, indoor and outdoor reception of TV signal, adjustable stretching rods, and is UHF-rotated.

The UVR-AV 208 has built-in gain booster, gain control, retractable dipoles and is adjustable for best reception. The UVR-AV 209 has an additional 75 signal input/output socket while the UVR-AV 210 has large UFG loop for clear pictures and LED power-on indicator. All three models cost P695 each.

The STAR-1A has all the other features plus an infrared remote control to rotate 360 degrees (P995).

For outdoor, Greentek offers remote-controlled antennas allowing the antenna's position to be changed from within the house. Choices are 850 model (P995) and premium waterproof ET-1A model (P1,495).

Call Search Commercial at 8990102 or visit DIY Shops in Ortigas, Libis, Cubao, Fairview, Sucat, Cainta, Imus, Naga, Batangas, Baguio, Tarlac, Olongapo, Angeles, Dagupan, Urdaneta and Alaminos.



GREENTEK offers remote-controlled antennas that allow the antenna's position to be changed from within the house.

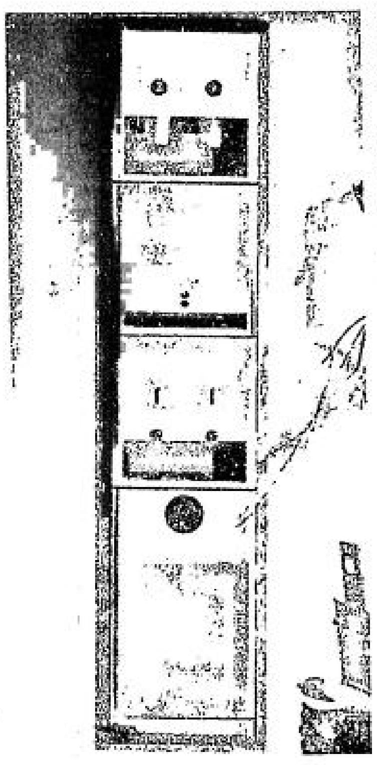
Classic stainless steel fittings now in town

DANISH BRAND D LINE, which has a comprehensive and extensive range of fittings in stainless steel with more than 3,000 components in production, is now available in the Philippines.

Carl F as, which carries the Danish brand D Line, recently signed an exclusive distributor agreement with Eurotiles Industrial Corporation.

Since 1970, D Line has developed a unique range of well-designed, high-quality, stainless steel grade 316 products, ranging from hardware to bathrooms, washrooms, handrails, wardrobes, and signs.

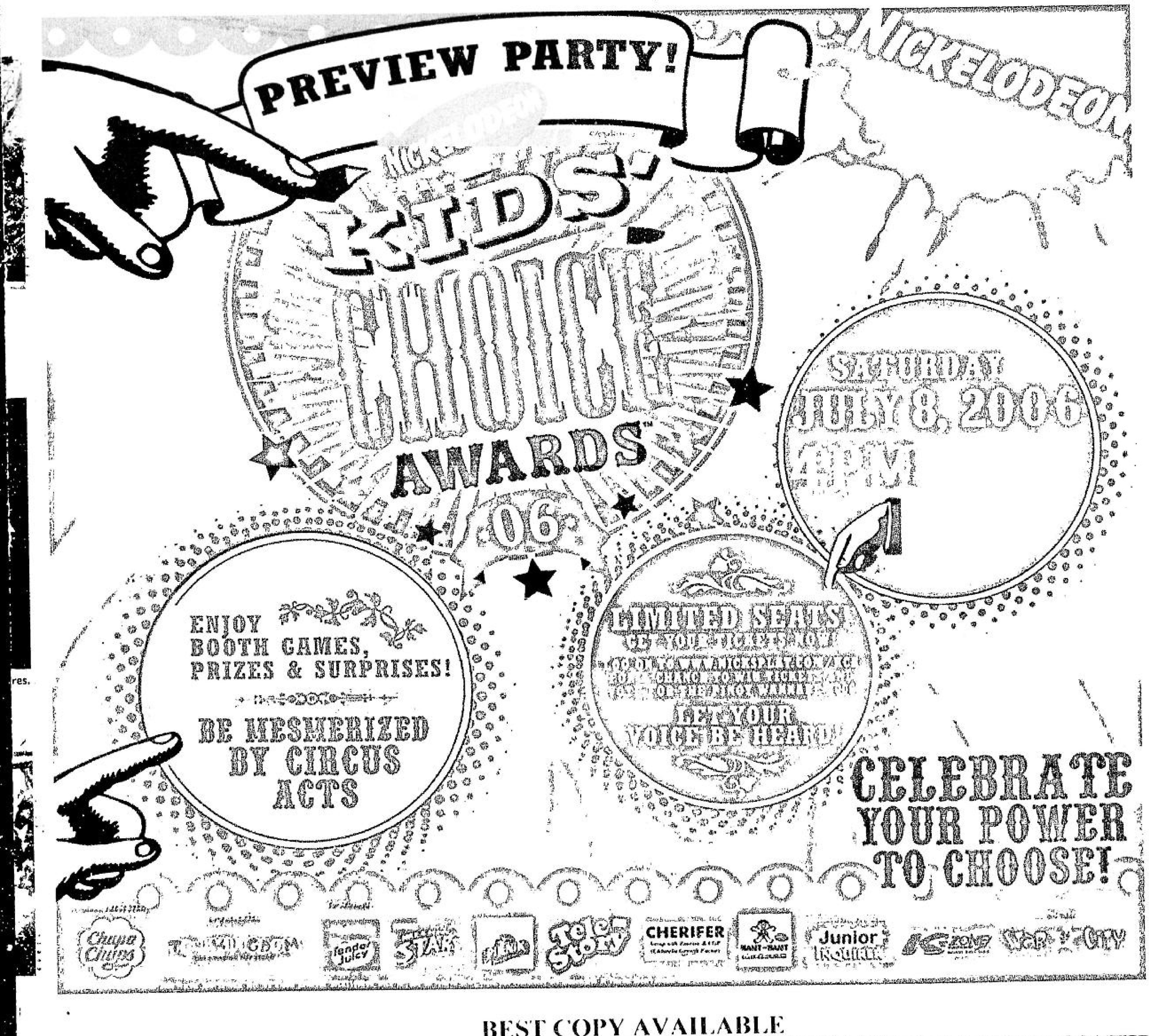
Used and specified worldwide by architects and designers, the brand was designed by Knud Holscher, Professor, Architect & Designer. The entire range conforms to a strict design philosophy.



The main characteristic of the D Line range is that all items are bent to a radius which equals the radius of the tube. This guarantees the uniform design of D Line, which uniquely carries through from door furniture through signage and mechanical items to bathroom fittings.

The brand's minimalist concept and clean design, as well as its low maintenance and durability, makes it a worthwhile investment for builders, architects,and designers.

D Line products are showcased at Federal Design Expo, 2250 Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City. Call 8936553/8936589, or visit www.dline.com.



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Filipiniana exhibit opens in Spain

AMBASSADOR Joseph Bernardo and Sarah Salcedo

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

I'M BACK AFTER A LONG and much-needed vacation, thanks to Qatar Airways. I had a ticket that was about to expire so I flew from Cebu to Doha, and on to Madrid.

It is the most convenient way for Cebuanos to go to Spain, with just one stop to change planes in Qatar's capital, Doha.

On the way back, it is the same procedure; you check in your luggage all the way from Madrid to Cebu. There's just one catch: an 18-hour wait for the plane to Cebu. Those bound for Manila only have a three-hour wait.

What to do in Doha for 18 hours?

You can take an exciting tour of the desert dunes. You may go shopping in the exotic *souks* and try the Arabian cuisine, which is fabulous. Once, we made a sortie to an animal farm. The photo op with ostriches was memorable, and so was the camel ride.

This time, though, I decided to luxuriate in the Doha Marriott Hotel. It is palatial in its décor and accommodations.

The huge swimming pool was most inviting; so were the various restaurants and the spa. But you could do as I did: shave and shower, snuggle into bed for a good sleep amid a dozen fluffy pillows, and enjoy the movies on the TCM or MGM channels.

While in Spain, I looked up friends and relations in Madrid, Zaragoza, Calamocha (Teruel), and Jaen. In Madrid, I saw a *zarzuela*, "*La Tabernera del Puerto*," mounted as an opera, and a colorful extravaganza titled "*Antologia de la Danza Española*."

A memorable event was the opening of the Filipino exhibit at the *Centro Cultural* in the *Cuartel del Conde-Duque*, a huge historic edifice restored as a cultural center, with an impressive central-stone patio. The exhibit was organized by Barcelona-based Casa Asia. It depicted life in the Philippines from the Spanish era to the present.

GEORGINA Padilla Zobel and her Juan Luna painting

Juan Guardiola, curator and organizer of the exhibit, went to the Philippines, including the Visayas, last year to gather material. He attended a meeting of *Amigos de España en Cebu* presided over by **Amparito Lhuillier** and arranged by **Angel Veloso Jr.** and **Fe Sala Villarica.** Juan also visited Southern Leyte for a glimpse of Limasawa Island, and the municipality of Malitbog, seat of the prominent Escano dynasty.

Mention of the Escano family makes one recall its collateral branches like the Lhuilliers, the Salas, the Corominas, Veloso, Garcia-Aberasturi, and other large clans. Juan contacted some of them to inform them of the Madrid opening of the exhibit. Felicitously, it coincided with my trip to Spain, so I went.

Philippine Ambassador to Spain **Joseph "Lani" Bernardo** figured prominently, as well as **Trinidad Ximenes** representing the Spanish government.

Juan escorted them through every module of the exposition, including a pile of *balikbayan* boxes complete with all their possible contents.

Former ambassadors to Spain **Isabel Caro Wilson** and **Mike Stilianopulos** were present, as well as **Georgina Padilla Zobel** (Mrs. **Luis Mac-Crohon**), who lent one of her **Juan Luna** paintings. She also facilitated the loan of some abstract paintings by her late uncle, **Fernando Zobel**, who established a museum of modern art in the nearby province of Cuenca.

Among the Visayans present were Philippine Consul General in Madrid **Cookie Feria** and Lani's secretary, **Sarah Salcedo**; **Hope Ledesma de Sagaz**, in a stunning pink terno; **Carolina Aboitiz**, who said she'd be in Cebu in September; and **Tita Gotingco**, with her pretty daughter **Nuria Cugat**.

Many have visited the exhibit and will continue to do so until it closes in September. It received a boost when Philippine National Day on June 12 was celebrated at the Conde-Duque by Ambassador Lani and his wife **Conchitina Sevilla de Bernardo**.

Hola magazine gave it prominence due to the presence of **Isabel Preysler** and her husband **Muguel Boyer**.

Further enhancement will be given the Filipiniana exhibit when President **Macapagal-Arroyo** visits Spain, as guest of Their Majesties King **Juan Carlos** and Queen **Sofia**. The President will stay at the magnificent palace of El Pardo.

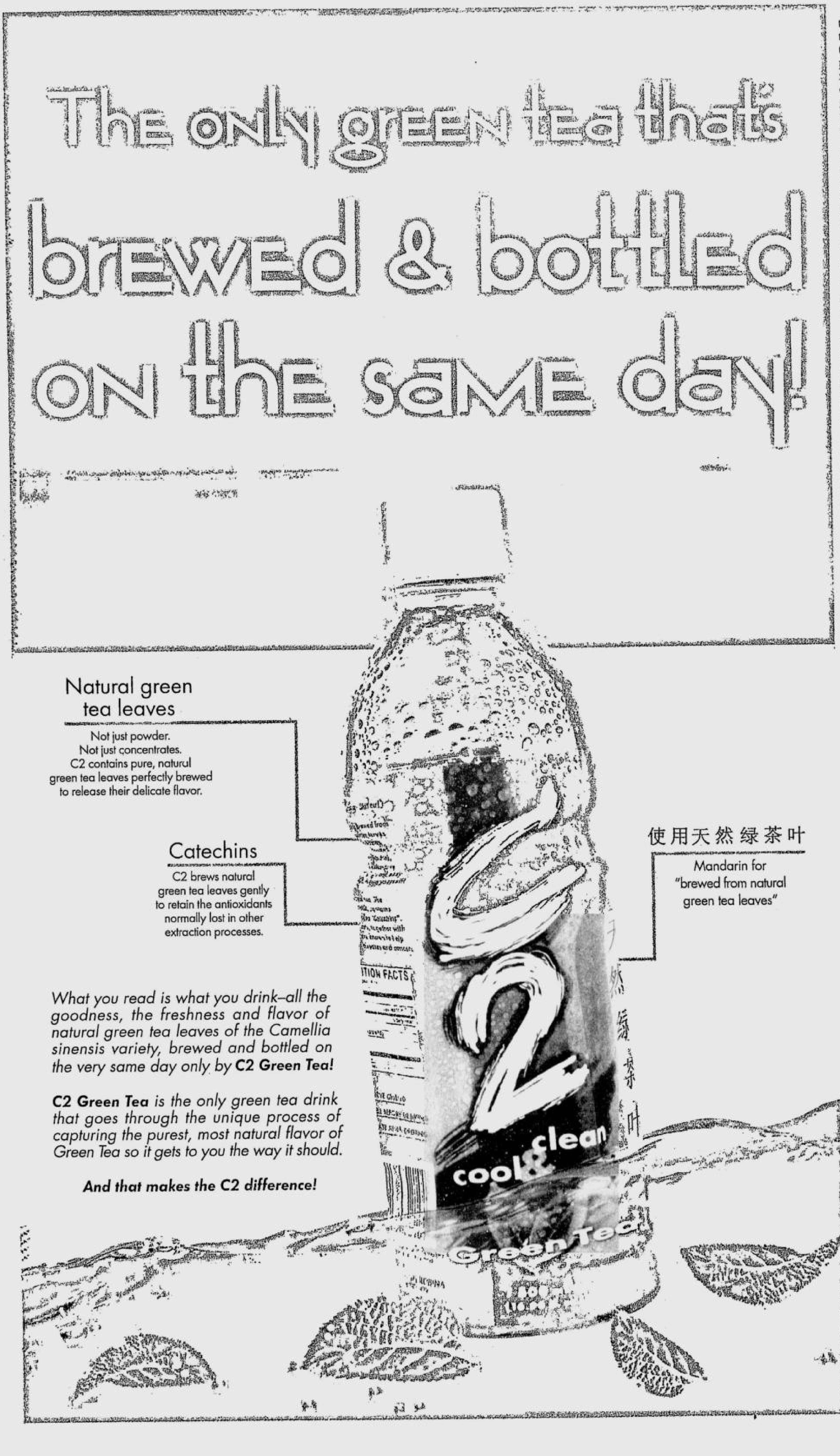
Angelito Veloso said Juan was in touch with him recently, discussing the possibility of bringing the exhibit to Manila in December, and to the Visayas as well. Cebu was mentioned as a site, as well as Tacloban. Time will tell.

CASA Asia director Carmen Pi, Isabel Wilson and Carolina Aboitiz

NURIA Cugat

BETSY von Westendrop de Brias and Mike Stilianopulos

TITA Gotingco and Hope Ledesma de Sagaz



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The spell of Siquijor

THE SUMMIT of Mt. Bandila-an

Text and photos by **Amadís Ma. Guerrero**
Contributor

> Peaceful and pastoral, almost pristine, the province has a reputation for sorcery the locals would rather not dwell on

IN OLDEN TIMES, SIQUIJOR had an abundance of fireflies, and these glowed around the trees at night. It must have been an eerie and fascinating sight, and the Spaniards called the area Isla de Fuego or Island of Fire.

The Japanese military, during World War II, were less captivated by the island, and they engaged in manganese mining which destroyed the environment. To flush out the guerillas in Siquijor's Mt. Bandila-an, the Japanese razed the mountain to the ground; only five hectares remained untouched.

The Isla de Fuego had literally become an Island of Fire.

During the postwar era, the national government embarked on a massive reforestation program; and today Mt. Bandila-an is a nature park, an ecological destination area of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Peaceful and pastoral, almost pristine, the province of Siquijor has a reputation for sorcery most Siquihodnons would rather not dwell on. "There are no witches here, only traditional healers," claimed a local tourism official once.

Last Holy Week, faith healers from other provinces joined their local counterparts to mix lots of species with the special oil found here. And, amid rituals and incantations, they created potions, which may include love potions and other kinds of heady brew.

THE SPELL/ E3

City Garden Hotel
Makati

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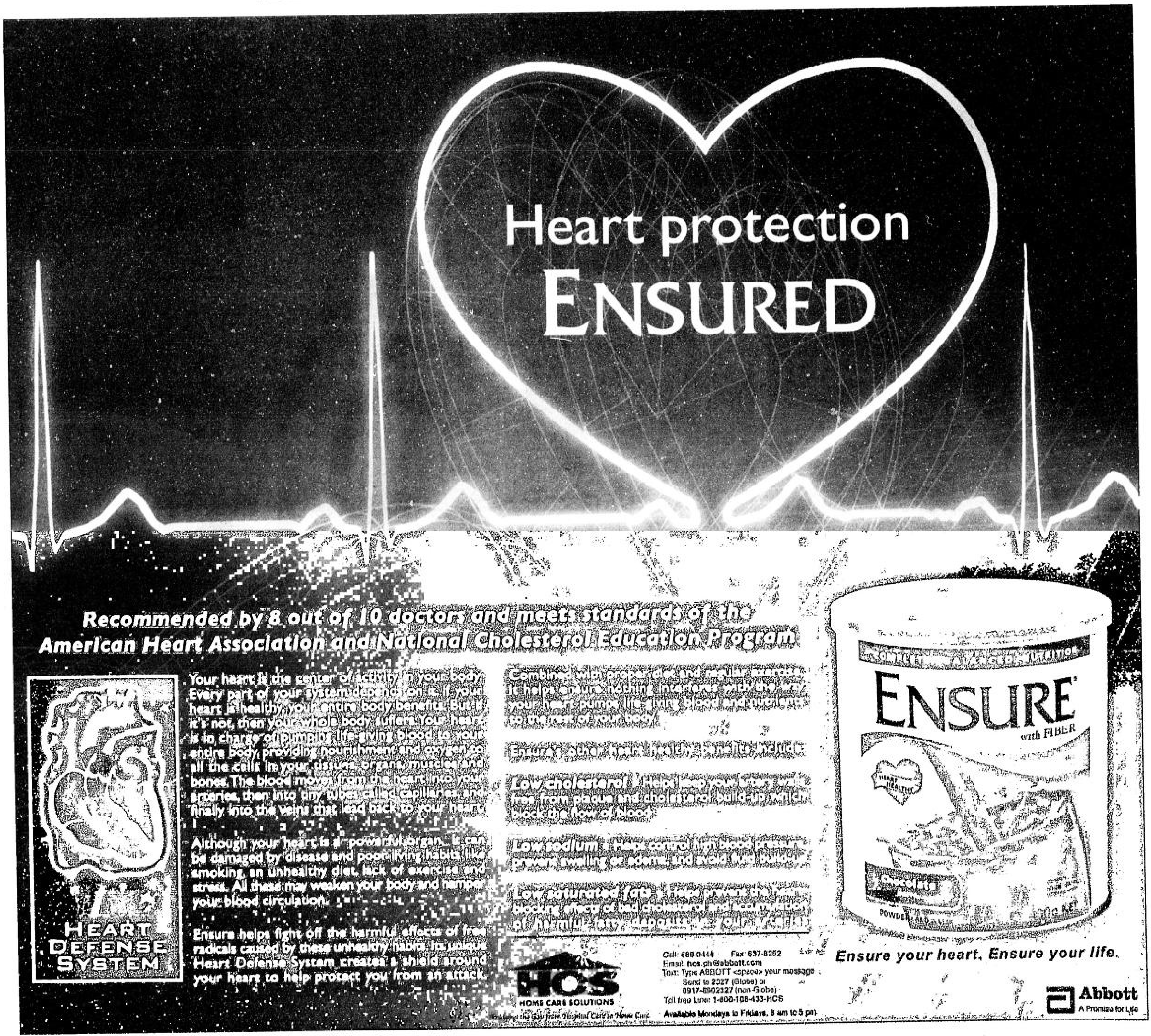

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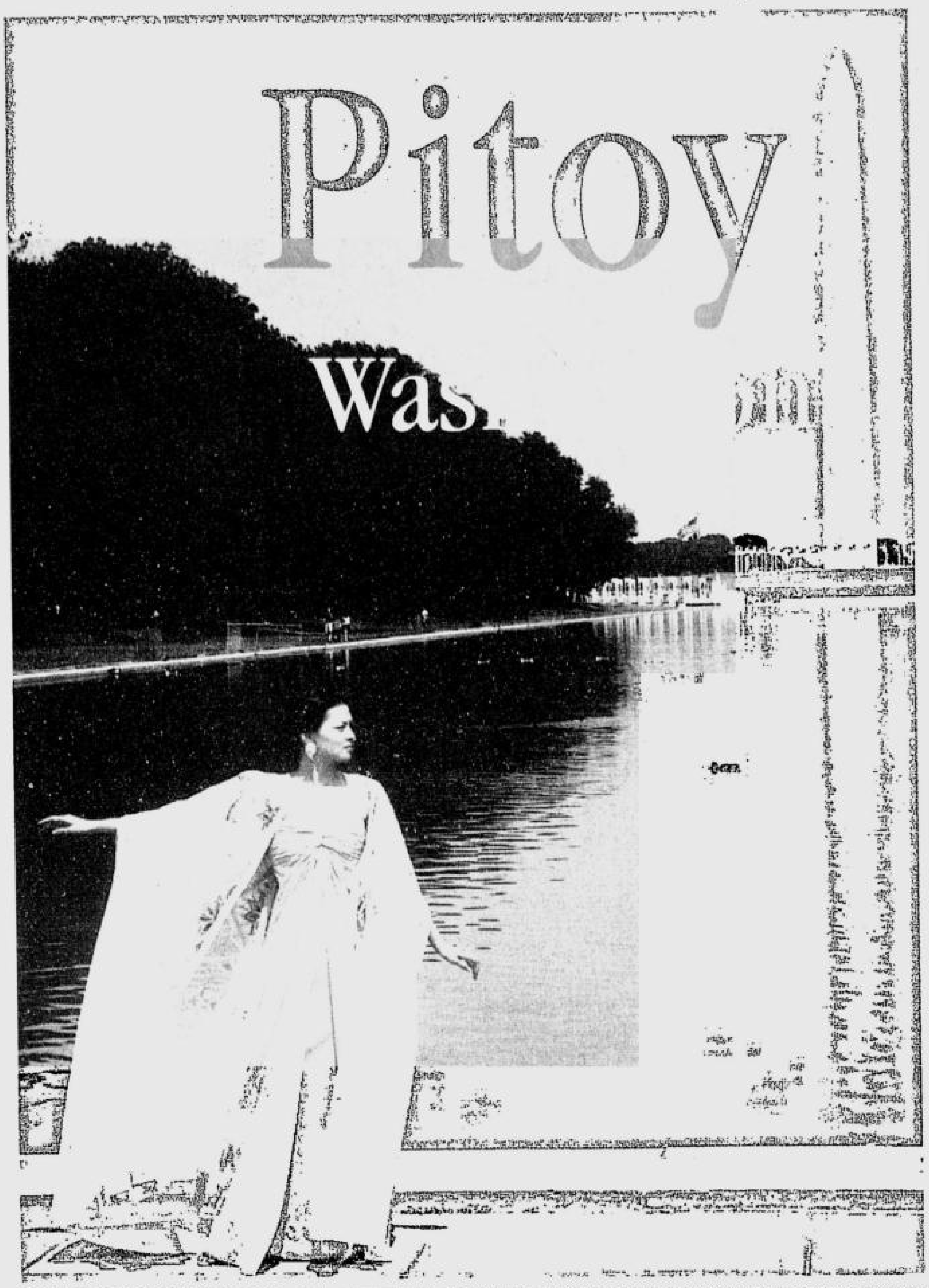
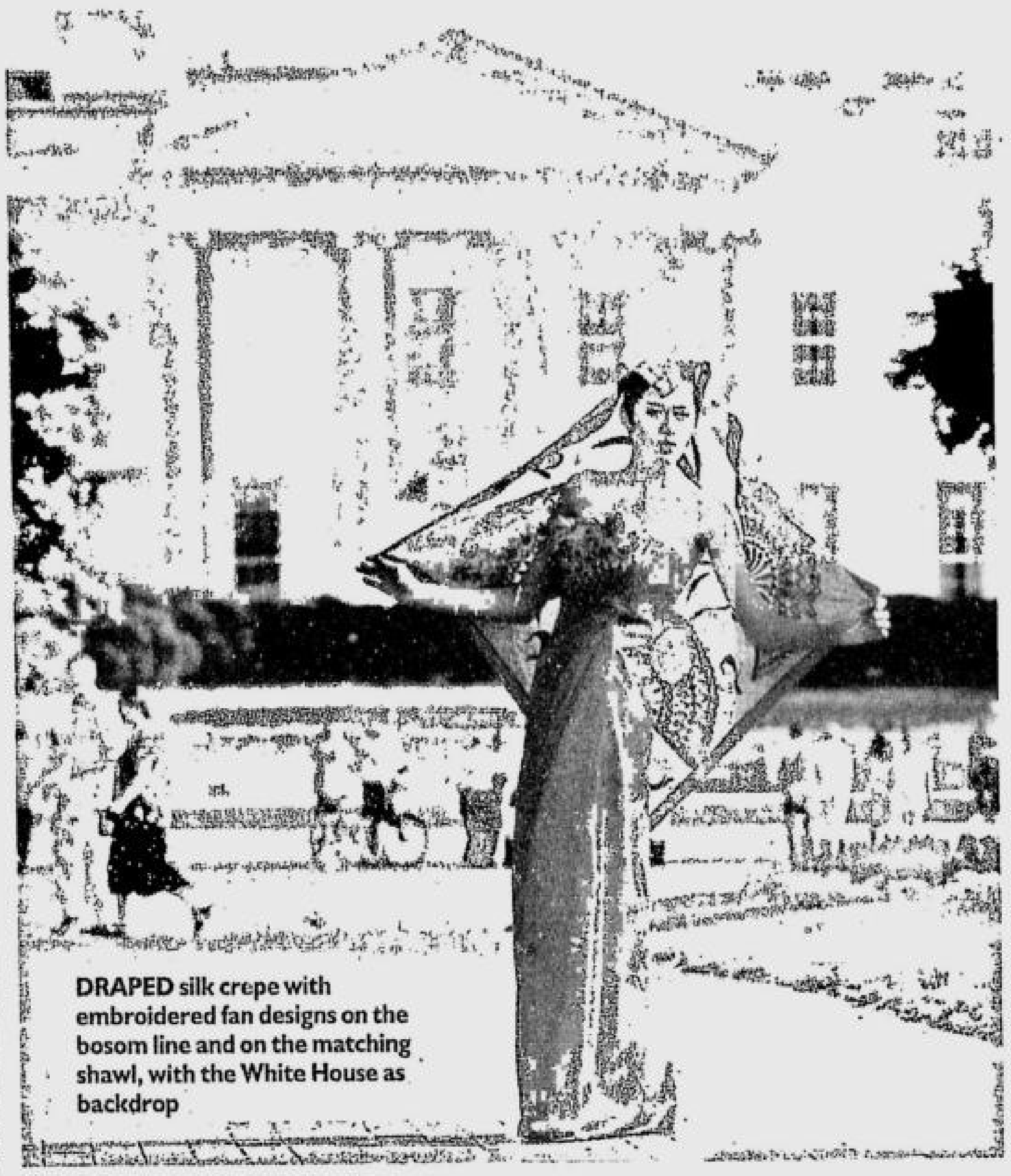


THE WASHINGTON Monument serves as a stunning backdrop to this piña opera coat with classic embroidery on edges and blue draped gown underneath.



DRAPED silk crepe with embroidered fan designs on the bosom line and on the matching shawl, with the White House as backdrop

PHILIPPINE FASHION maestro José "Pitoy" Moreno unleashed a powerhouse collection of Filipino styles with modern silhouettes in a well-received show in the capital of the world's superpower.

Titled "J. Moreno, Philippines Costumes and Inspirations," the show was held at the ballroom of the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Washington D.C. last week.

Organized by the Philippine embassy in Washington headed by Ambassador Albert del Rosario, the show was held to commemorate the centennial of the first arrival of Filipinos in the United States in 1906.

The collection consisted of Filipino gowns with local motifs and materials rendered along contemporary lines.

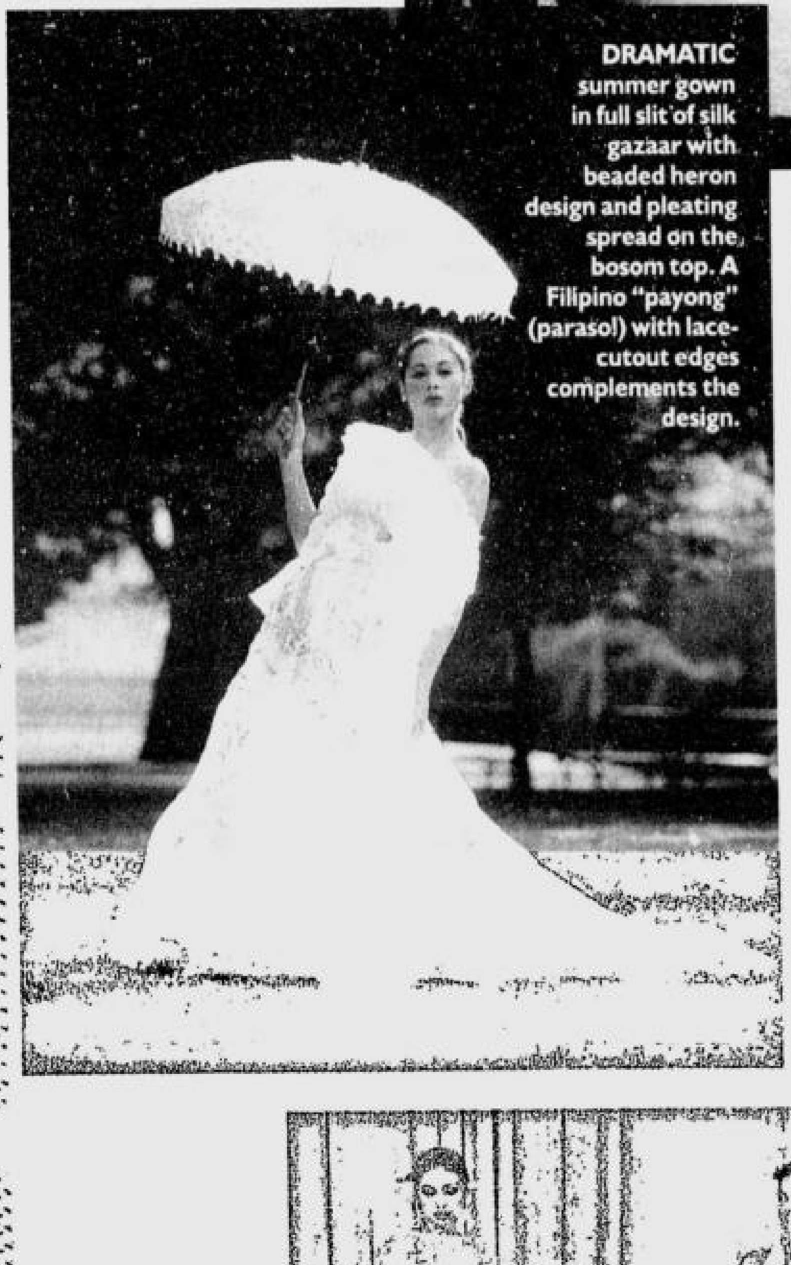
Also featured were Maria Clara gowns and turn-of-the-20th century barong with *cocho* slippers and native jewelry and accessories.

The fashion gala drew some 800 spectators, some of them members of the US Congress and other American officials.

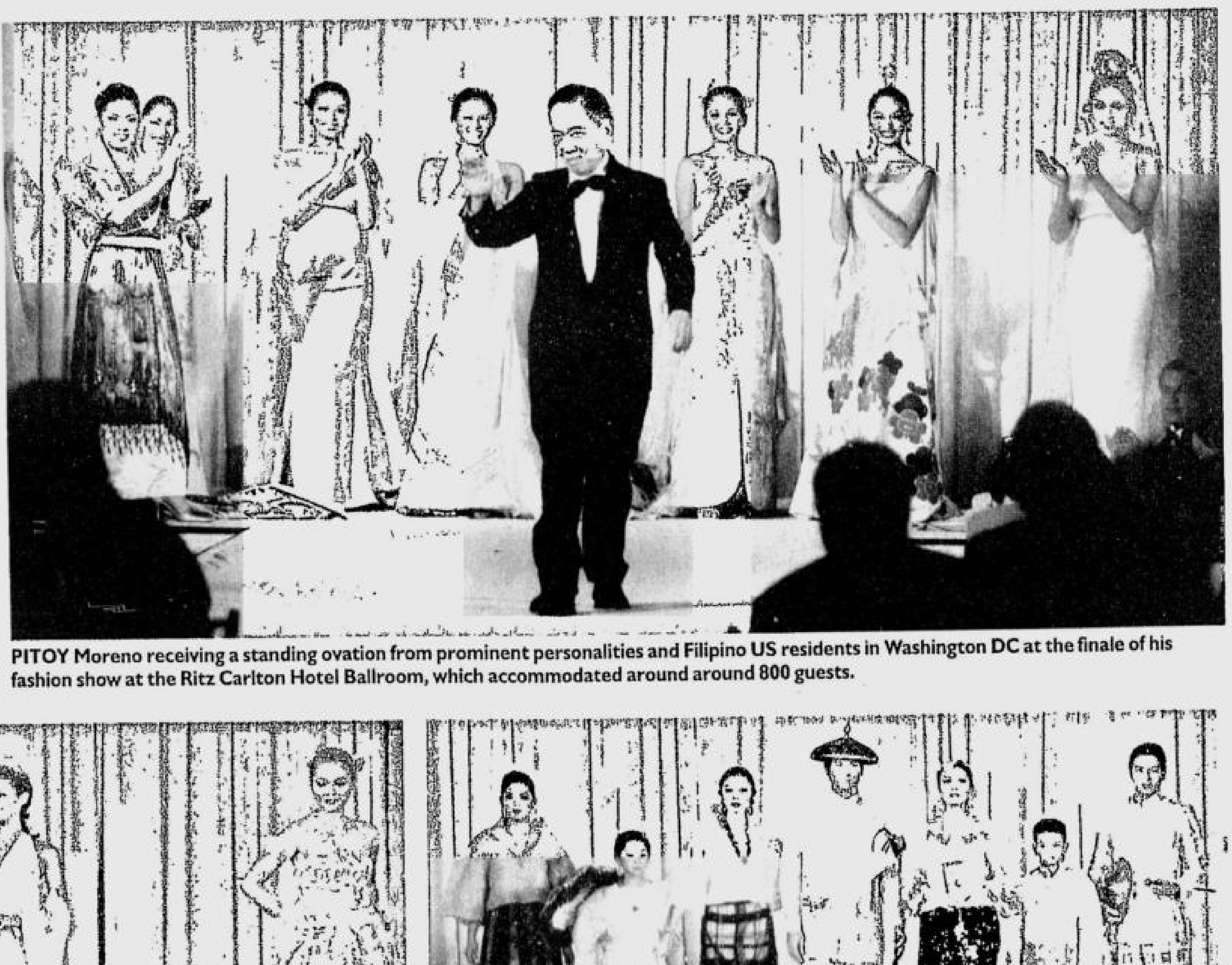
Moreno got a standing ovation after the show. "It was the most thunderous ovation I have received in my many years of touring capitals of the world to show Filipino fashion," Moreno said. "It was very touching."

TWO of the most applauded creations, piña coats with beautifully embroidered design on each end of the shoulder of the coat over a draped silk crepe

ATI-ATIHAN -inspired gowns with generously draped jerseys, accompanied by Mardi Gras masks and headpieces



DRAMATIC summer gown in full slit of silk gazaar with beaded heron design and pleating spread on the bosom top. A Filipino "payong" (parasol) with lace-cutout edges complements the design.



PITOY Moreno receiving a standing ovation from prominent personalities and Filipino US residents in Washington DC at the finale of his fashion show at the Ritz Carlton Hotel Ballroom, which accommodated around around 800 guests.

BEAUTY queens take a bow at the finale. Carla Bautista in a piña twin panel creation with all-beaded sleeves, Precious Quigaman in white gazaar and twin panels on both arms that fall into a dramatic beaded train, and Maan Bayot in a heavy silver embroidered gown

THE SHOW featured authentic Filipiniana such as Maria Clara gowns, turn-of-the-century barong with *tapis* and *cocho* slippers and heirloom jewelry.

SALAGDO-ON Beach in Maria town is the most attractive beach in Siquijor.

The spell of Siquijor

From page E1

The medicines are said to be most effective when gathered on Good Friday.

Siquijor lies south of Cebu and Bohol in Central Visayas. The entry point is Dumaguete City, capital of Negros Oriental, in my case via the SuperFerry (P3,700 round-trip promo, economy/aircon). Thanks to Judd Salas of the Aboitiz Transport System, I was upgraded to a stateroom on board SF-2 (and to a cabinet in SF-5 on the return trip).

From Dumaguete, it is a one-hour ferry-boat ride (P160, promo again) to the capital of Siquijor, also called Siquijor. There are five other towns—all also coastal—in the province: Larena, San Juan, Lazi, Maria and Enrique Villanueva.

Siquijor is all of 33,000 hectares, and it only takes three hours of leisurely driving to traverse the island through the circumferential coastal highway.

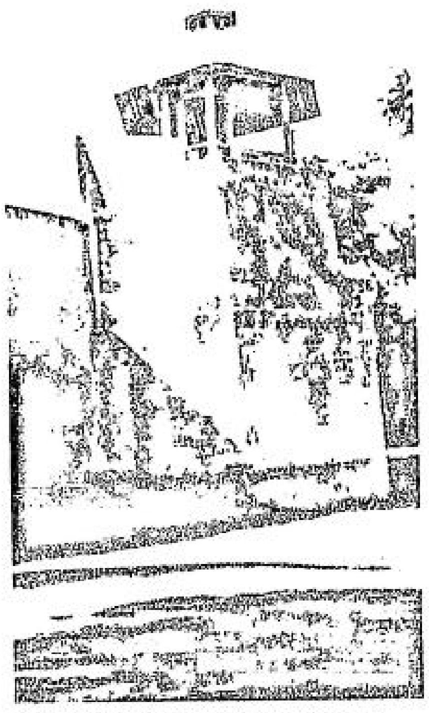
There are numerous budget hotels and beach resorts in Siquijor, the most pricey being the standard Coco Grove in San Juan. For this budget-conscious traveler spending his own money, my host Oscar Magallones, the DENR provincial officer, recommended the Siquijor State College in Larena, which has executive guesthouses, aircon and quite satisfactory at P650.

The state college has an attractive beachfront area below the hostel, with picnic huts, rock formations, sea grass and clear waters which are a favorite swimming area of the boisterous local children, mostly boys.

Across the bay are the mountains of Cebu and Negros Oriental. (These disappear, however, during hazy and misty mornings.)

Cultural landmarks

The island of Siquijor is filled with unspoiled beaches, mangroves, caves, butterfly and marine sanctuaries and cultural landmarks.



ST. FRANCIS de Assisi bell tower, circa 1850s

The St. Francis of Assisi Church in Maria, with its bell tower, dates back to 1857. Even more famous is the St. Isidore church in Lazi and its convent-house, declared a historical landmark in 1985. It is the oldest and biggest convent in the country.

For swimmers, there's the Capilez Spring Park in San Juan, a natural pool with spring waters that is a favorite of the local youth, and Salagdo-on Beach in Maria. Before reaching Salagdo-on, which is also a diving site, you enter a manmade forest filled with thousands of trees.

Salagdo-on has attractive twin beach coves and a resort with cottages, among other amenities. The waters are deep and crystal clear, with corals in relatively good condition; and the two beaches have white sand.

Contabon in Mt. Bandila-an is the most explored of the province's many caves. It has abundant deposits of stalagtites and stalagmites, and a subterranean stream.

The Mt. Bandila-an Nature Park is a proposed Protected Landscape. "It has 187 identified species of flora, 36 identified species of birds and 100 butterfly species," reports the DENR's Magallones (who is from San Carlos Bukidnon). "Mahogany is dominant among the tree species."

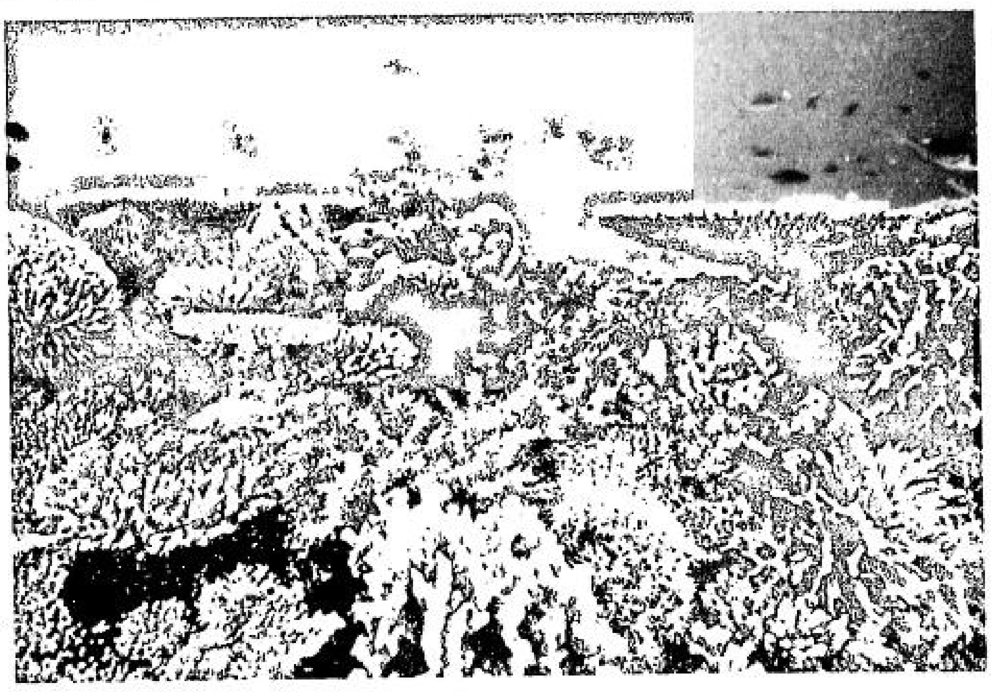
The mountain is accessible by vehicle up to midpoint, which is the Bandila-an Lodge and project site, where tourists like to bring tents and set up camp. They can also stay overnight in the lodge, with the permission of forester Urcisio Galamiton.

Nearby are minifalls, Grotto, Stations of the Cross leading to the summit and a century-old, spreading *balete* tree which is, as forester Galamiton put it, "the dwelling place of the spirits in Siquijor."

Then the ascent by foot from midpoint to the peak—600 meters (around 2,000 feet) above sea level —is facilitated by a manmade stairway of stone along the trails. I was practically limping and in near-agony, however, because of a foot allergy.

There are three crosses on the summit (with vandals leaving their inscriptions at the back of each cross), and a steel tower-viewpoint, with all of Siquijor below you. There is the Mindanao Sea, and as a backdrop the mountains of Cebu, Bohol and Negros Oriental. The Apo Island sanctuary is a dot on the horizon. To the south is the Zamboanga Peninsula, although hardly visible.

On the way down, with the DENR vehicle negotiating the zigzag, the mountain peaks of the island province of Camiguin materialized in the distance, like Venus rising from the sea.



THE COUNTRY has many wonders to offer.

Ecotourism: the next bright spot

DURING A RECENT VACATION WITH HIS family at Tubattaha, Palawan, a natural diving haven that offers a majestic view of an underwater paradise, Presidential Consultant for Entrepreneurship Joey Concepcion, saw the economic possibilities of responsible ecotourism.

While the proper agencies have been clamoring for an increase in awareness to the various tourism attractions the country has to offer (often targeted to consumers), the Founding Trustee of the Philippine Center for Entrepreneurship—the organization behind the Go Negosyo events, as well as Concepcion's vessel for advocacy to promote a culture of Entrepreneurship—thought ecotourism was a window of opportunity for potential and aspiring entrepreneurs.

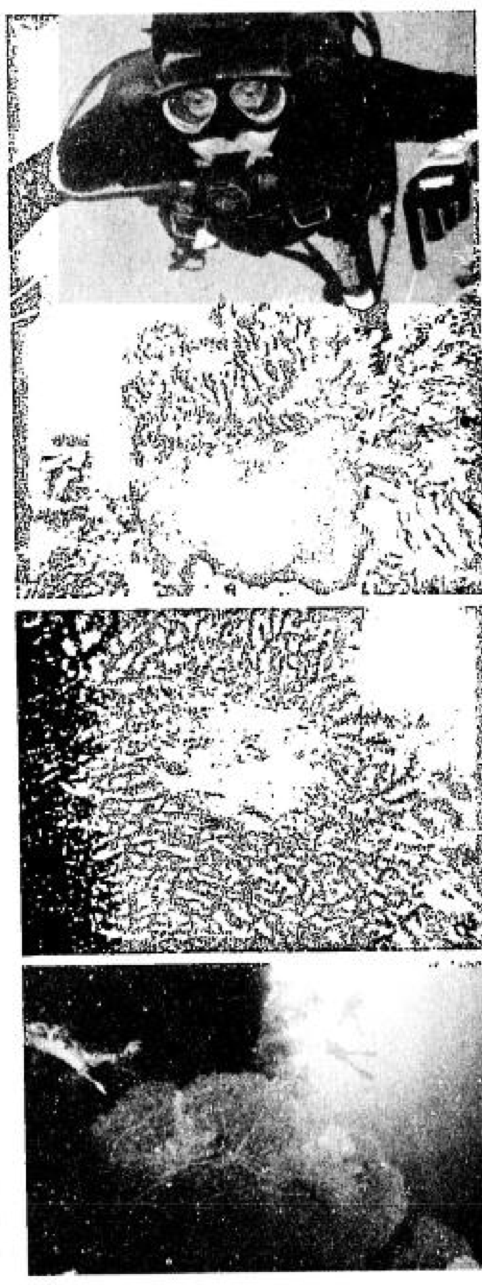
"It is no secret that there are many wonders our country has to offer. With that comes a doorway to Filipinos who wish to run their own business, from offering services such as food and lodging, travel guides, souvenirs, just to name a few. Ecotourism is a treasure chest that most have overlooked," says Concepcion.

Concepcion is already contemplating on an ecotourism Negosyo Fair or forum. He is at present gathering the necessary subjects and resource persons who will reinforce his vision of an Entrepreneurship Revolution.

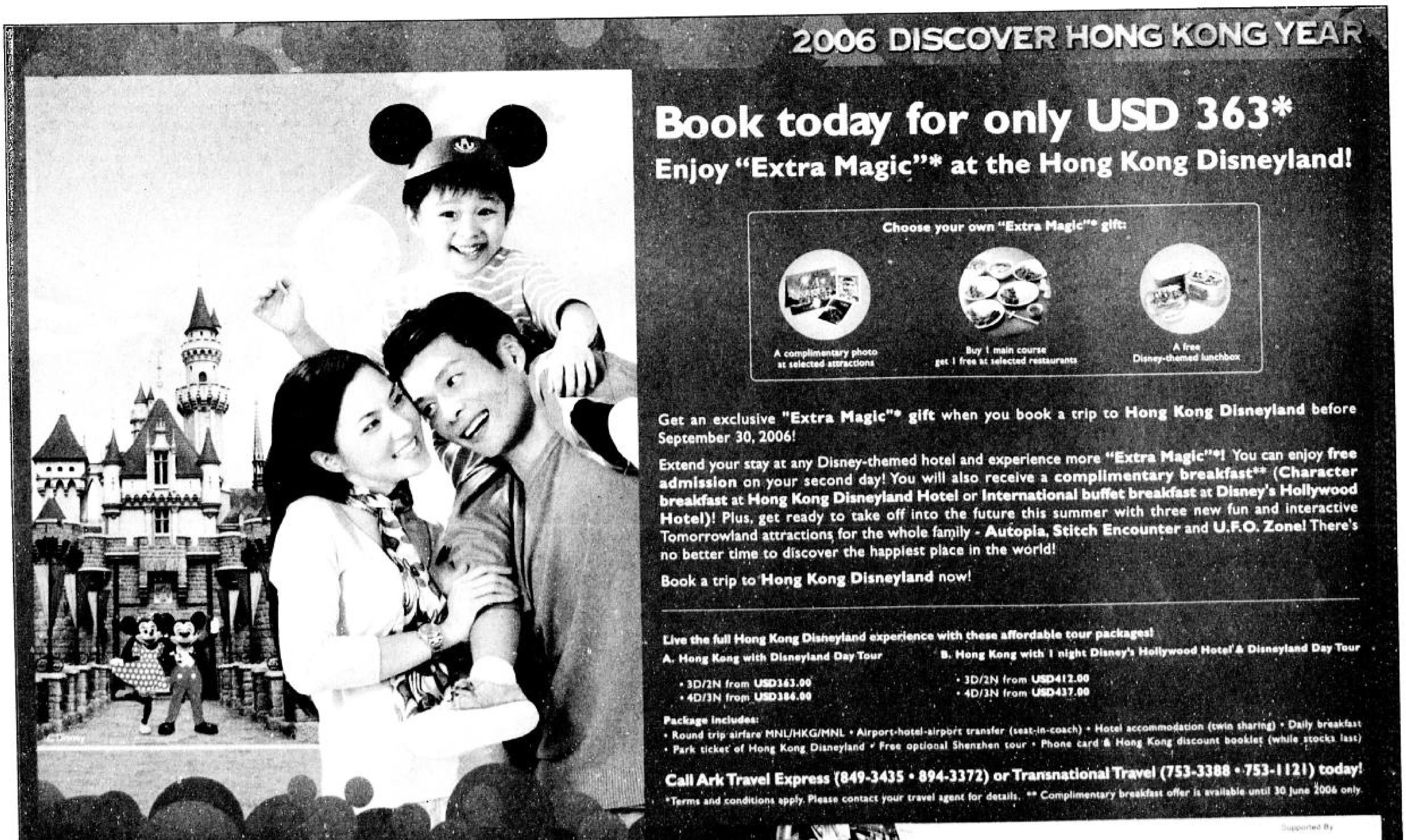
This, of course, goes hand-in-hand with his other activities, including the "Go Negosyo" TV show, which is currently on air, and an upcoming TechnoNegosyo conference.

"The key is providing options," says Concepcion. "We have to open as many doors and to tap into as many business models and ideas so we can help Juan de la Cruz get up on his feet and support himself and his family."

After all, he adds, "It's a rare opportunity to have a business that not helps oneself, but also helps the country."



RECENT reports say the Philippines probably has the most diverse marine ecosystem in the world.



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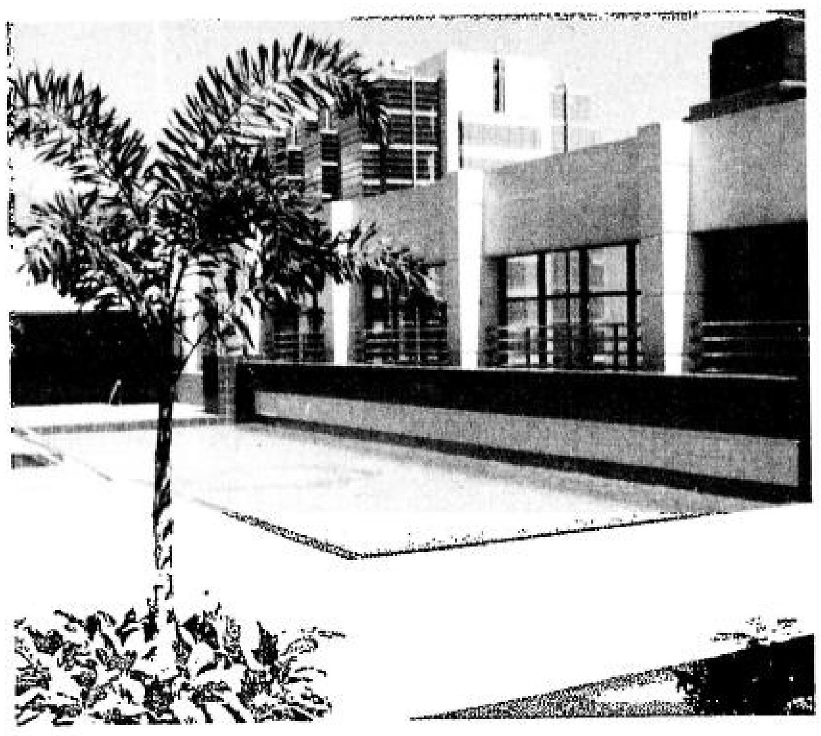

Philippine team is third in shopping challenge

TEAM PHILIPPINES IS THIRD IN THE GREAT Singapore International Shopping Challenge that began the annual Great Singapore Sale (GSS). Australia was first and Malaysia was second.

The Philippine team consisted of Jane Kingsu of Metro Magazine, Edwin Sallan of the Manila Bulletin and JJ San Juan of Philippine Star.

Seventeen international shopping teams competed for the grand prize of S$10,000 cash.

Each team was given S$1,000 to shop for specified products while achieving the greatest savings. Team Australia had a total savings of S$2,809.88 while Team Malaysia saved S$2,504.34. Team Philippines had savings of S$2,238.59.

All participating teams kept the items they purchased.

Team Philippines, which received a S$3,000 cash prize, got products from BCMG, Fila, British India, Swarovski and a Pentax digital camera priced at S$199, down from the original price of S$838.

Last year Filipinos were overall champions. Rocson Chang, Singapore Tourism Board-Philippines' area director, said the team had done them proud by sustaining its winning streak.

GSS, which runs until July 23, offers up to 70 percent in discount on just about everything—fashion items, electronics, jewelry, watches, gifts and homeware.

GSS 2006 retail sales in June and July exceeded the S$4.6 billion mark set the previous year. Visit www.visitsingapore.com for more information.

Convention package

Camp John Hay is offering again this year the "Convene at The Peak" package for seminars and conferences.

For P6,250 per person, the package includes a three-day, two-night stay in a Superior Room at The Manor. Most of the rooms at the Manor, the piano bar, the reception area, administration offices, business center and parts of verandah are Wi-Fi capable.

The CAP John Hay Trade and Cultural Center is an efficient, well-equipped convention site with facilities for audio-visual presentations.

"Convene at the Peak" convention package is valid for check-in Sunday and checkout Friday.

New service

Starting July 19, Singapore Airlines and SilkAir offer passengers from Manila, Cebu and Davao thrice weekly same-day flight connections via Singapore to Milan and Barcelona. Introductory airfares on Sia Economy Class to Milan or Barcelona from Manila starts at US$788, subject to taxes and surcharges. The limited offer is valid for departure from Manila until Sept. 30 only. Log on to singaporeair.com or call 7568899 (Manila), 2326211 (Cebu) or 2245608 (Davao).

Off-season Boracay package

The Sun Village Boracay Resorts offers the off-season Endless Summer 2006 package.

With the three-day, two-night package, a group of four pay P1,360 per person. Threesomes pay P1,530 per person while couples pay P2,060 per person. Those traveling alone pay P3,660 each. For a four-day, three-night stay, rates are P2,460 (triple occupancy), P3,510 (double occupancy) and P6,360 (single occupancy).

The Endless Summer 2006 is available at the three Sun Village Boracay Resorts until Oct. 26. Call the Manila office at 8131338 or 8937293, or the Boracay office at (036) 2885541. You may also fax (632) 8171186 or e-mail sunresorts@triisys.com.

Play and win

Singapore Airlines' "First to Fly the A380 Quiz and Draw" is giving away two seats on the world's first A380 commercial flight and a luxurious two-destination hotel stay in Singapore and Sydney. Sia celebrates the A380 historic flight from Singapore to Sydney. The promo is open to all 18 years old and older. It runs until Sept. 13. To join, simply log on to www.singaporeair.com/a380.

SPECIAL PROMO Best Western Astor Hotel in Makati offers "4 Nights Plus 1" promo until July 15. Hotel guests who stay for four consecutive nights in a deluxe room are entitled to a complimentary room plus buffet breakfast for two.

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THE COUPLE, Francesca Joanna Olmedo Arias and Vicente Socrates Arias III

An open letter to my daughter on her *wedding day*

It seemed as if the whole world stood still, with the essence of love distilled in all its purity when you went to meet your groom

STORY ON PAGE F2

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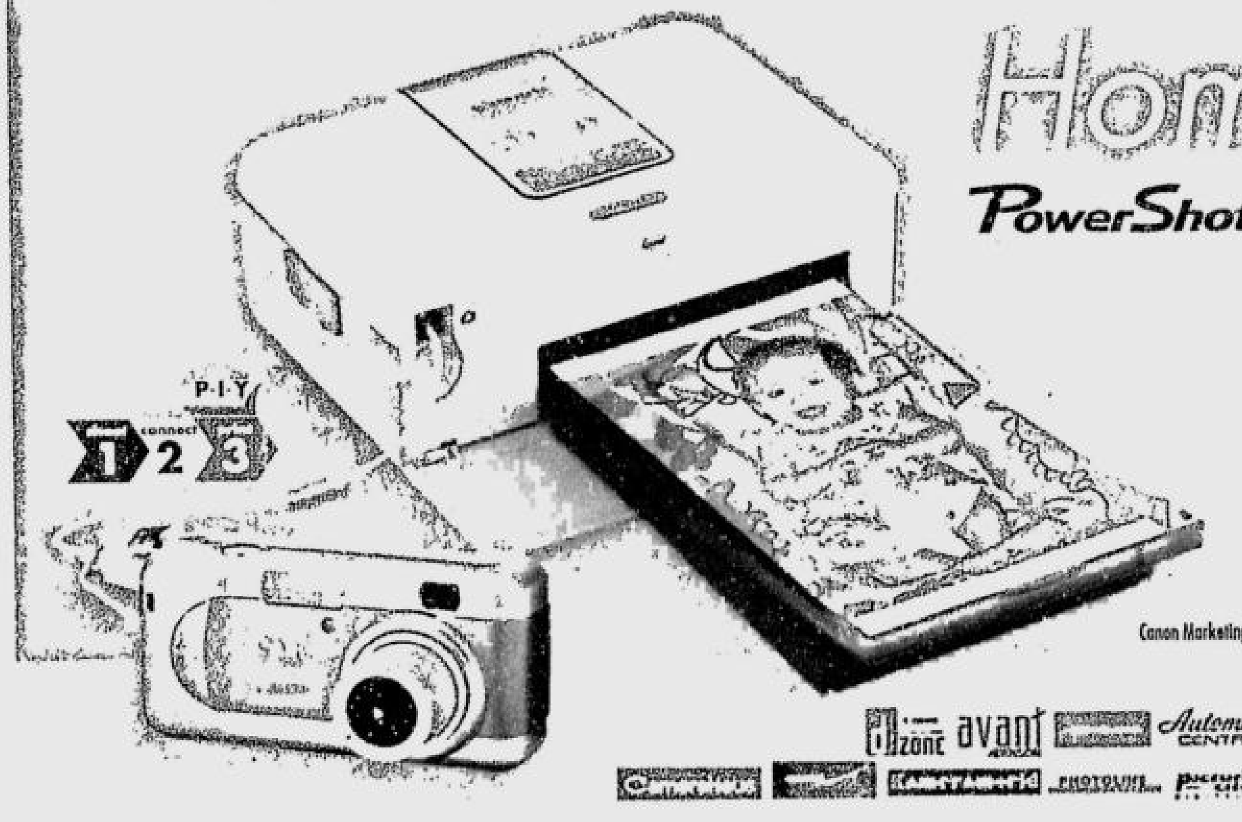

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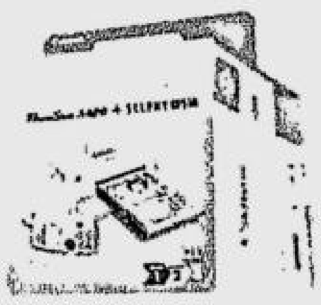

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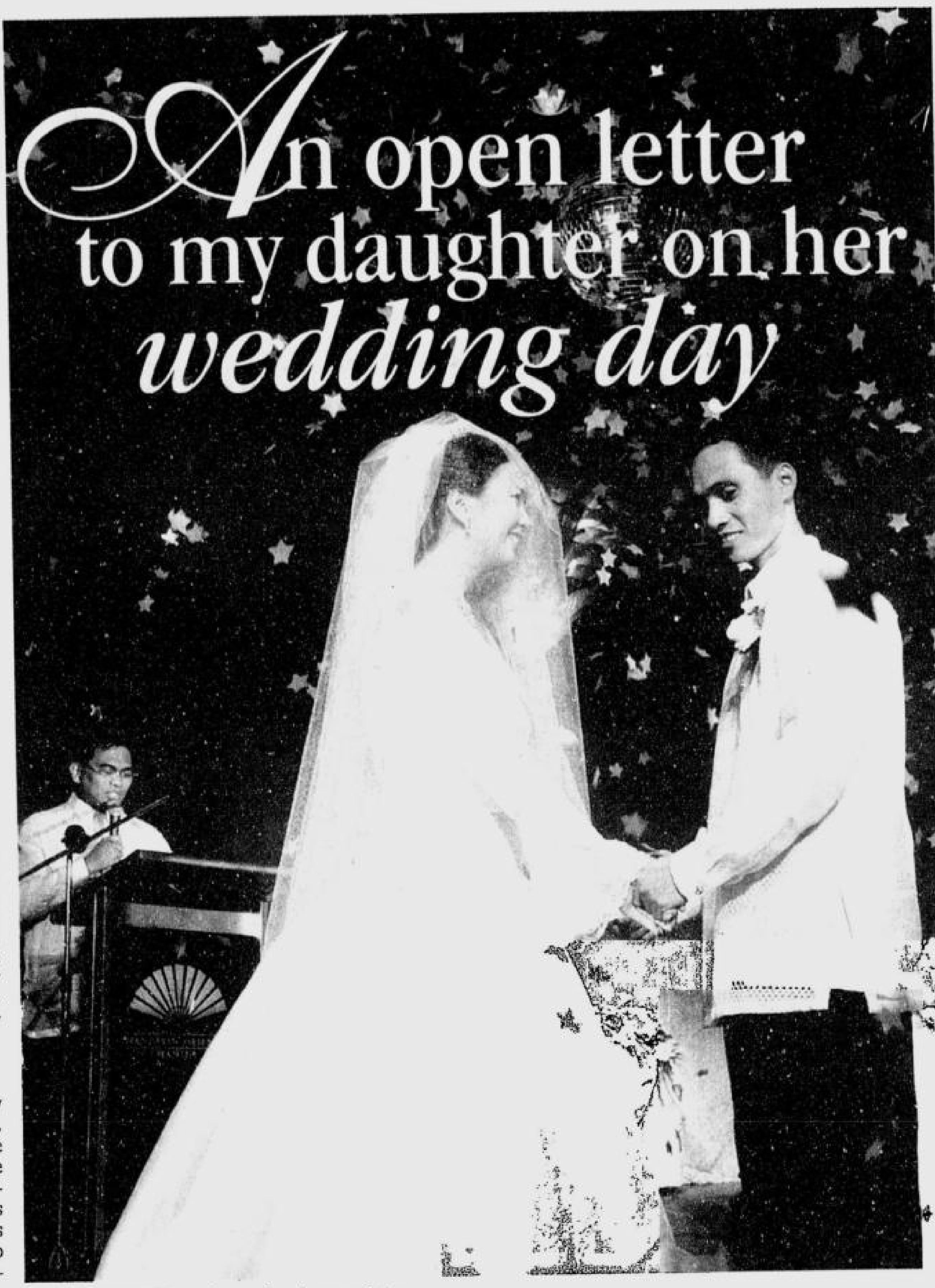
An open letter to my daughter on her *wedding day*


THE NEWLYWEDS underneath a shower of stars

By Bettina Rodriguez-Olmedo
Contributor

DEAR FRANJO,

You descended upon this world like a mischievous little angel, with tongue firmly in cheek.

For starters, you chose to be born on April Fools' Day. And you also decided to go against the expectations of your daddy and me. We had been certain all along that you would be a baby boy. We even had a name ready for you—Francis Jonathan. But since you turned out to be a girl, I just changed it to fit your gender. And so we named you Francesca Joanna.

As you grew up, I realized that you were actually an Onib Olmedo Jr. You were really a chip off the old block. Just like your dad, you were kind and gentle, with a truly caring heart. You had his gift for getting along with all kinds of people. There were the kids in Sampaloc, a place your dad never wanted to leave because the neighborhood was teeming with all kinds of "characters" who inspired his soul portraits on canvas.

Then there were your classmates from St. Theresa's College in Quezon City, intelligent scholars who came from economically underprivileged families. There were days when you willingly shared with them a few pesos from your P15 daily allowance or one of your sandwiches during recess.

Your childhood years left all of us with happy memories. There were out-of-town trips with the daughters of your dad's best friend, Manny Arriola, and his wife Fe. I remember how we went up to Baguio when you were only 2 years old. We all rode in the Ferris wheel. Your dad was with you in the seat, which swayed precariously at the very top while waiting for passengers to take their seats. The Ferris wheel then whirled around faster and faster, going up and down. Suddenly, you gave out a big howl, and your dad shouted "*ipara mo*" to the Ferris wheel operator. The poor guy was so startled that he immediately stopped the engine, and all the passengers were practically thrown forward in their seats!

Lifetime friendships

And the years just flew by. In nursery school, you had difficulty waking up at 6 a.m. to be able to make it in time for the FX service in Mang Nick's van, which transported all the passengers to Little Angel's preschool in Quezon City. Even when you were already 4 years old, your dad would still scoop you up in his arms and whisk off his "sleeping beauty" to the Tamaraw van, as you rubbed your drooping eyelids.

In STC Quezon City you spent your elementary years, but only until Grade 5. One day, I heard you and your older sister, Bambi, chanting an unbelievable mantra: "*Isa dagdag isa katumbas dalawa.*" Goodness gracious! I could hardly believe my ears. What was all this bilingual nonsense? Arithmetic was complicated enough without having to translate every single word into Filipino!

I also noticed that you and Bambi were fast getting into the bad habit of mixing your language registers in a horrendous hybrid of "Taglish." I told Onib we'd better look for another school.

St. Scholastica's proved to be just the school I was looking for. Learning was much more fun, because they combined alternative with traditional methods. You really enjoyed yourself, and you were able to forge friendships that would last a lifetime. Until now, Lyka Lopez and Berns Mahinay have remained your "barkada." To this day, the three of you still share your dark secrets, lots of happy memories, and also a few little heartaches.

The turning point in your life came when you were 12 years old. Onib had just left for an exhibit in the United States when you came down with H-fever. I had to rush you to UST hospital where your Tita Thelma, the pretty wife of your dad's friend, Raul Dizon, attended to you.

I believe that it was during this hospital confinement that you decided to become a doctor. It was then that you realized how a caring physician could really work out miracles to alleviate human pain and suffering.

And so after high school, you went right on to pursue your dream. As you took your medical course at De La Salle University, you had to put your life on hold. You became the perennial absentee during family reunions, baptisms, weddings and social gatherings.

But it was during your internship that you also met the man with whom you would share the rest of your life. He was also a doctor, and he had a funny nickname—Third—because he happened to be the third-generation child who carried his grandfather's name, Vicente Socrates.

I think that every girl gauges every guy she meets using the standards set by her father. Sure enough, Third turned out to be as kind and gentle as your daddy, and also as profound. He exuded a quiet intensity which you found simply irresistible.

Beautiful wedding

And so today, as you marry the man of your dreams, I am so glad that we've been able to give you a beautiful wedding. I stood my ground on the details pertaining to the march of the entourage and the giving-away ceremonies. I saw to it that the rites at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Makati would be lovely and unforgettable.

To do this, I broke many of the conventional rules, but I was really so happy that we were able to pull it off. I put my favorite poems celebrating the wonder of love printed on cards on each table—with the wedding coordinator, Allen, lovingly encoding each poem by E.E. Cummings and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, among others, and features by Gilda Cordero Fernando and Chit Roces.

The march of the sponsors and the rest of the entourage was choreographed by the coordinator, Grace, to the tune of "What the World Needs Now is Love, Sweet Love." The guests did not have to strain themselves to catch a glimpse of the bridesmaids and flower girls, because a ramp had been set up as well as a stage.

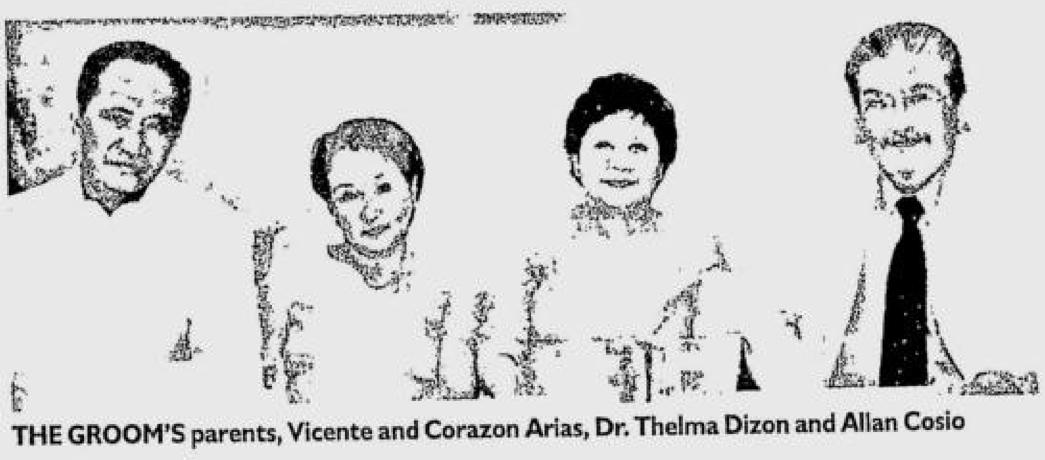
It was a Theresian, Agnes Suarez, who really helped us put together a dream wedding for you. She produced the audio-visual presentation, provided the light and sound equipment, and even the ramp. Wella, the Mandarin sales executive, was there for us during rehearsals.

As the gossamer curtains were drawn, everybody gave a collective gasp. You looked breathtakingly lovely and so ethereal in your long-sleeved lace gown. All eyes were on you as you walked down the ramp and met your groom midway, to the tune of "Tonight." It seemed as if the whole world stood still, with the essence of love distilled in all its purity when you went to meet your destiny.

After you were pronounced man and wife, lo and behold—both you and your groom were showered with tiny blue and silver stars, as the lyrics from your favorite song were chanted by Karen Carpenter: "Why do stars fall down from the skies, every time you walk by? Just like me, they long to be close to you."

I'm sure that your daddy must have been looking down from heaven. He must have been grinning from ear to ear, seeing that his little girl has now come into her own, ready to embark on a new life with a man to whom he would have given his wholehearted approval.

With my affection,
MOMMY


THE GROOM'S parents, Vicente and Corazon Arias, Dr. Thelma Dizon and Allan Cosio

PRINCIPAL sponsors Jun Jacinto, Mona Nieva-Konzelmann, Ambassador Eduardo Maglaya, Mila Cristina Nieva-Maglaya

WITH principal sponsors Tony Olizon, Carmen Olmedo and Jun Jacinto

JAVIER Calero and former Finance Undersecretary Noel Bonoan

CARMEN Araneta-Flor, Dr. Jaime Laya, bride's mother Bettina Olmedo and Chit Roces

GROOMSMEN Dr. KC Villanueva, Dr. Jeremias Balgua, Ferdinand Bocobo, Arthur Enerio, Dexter Cruz, Dr. Oliver Leyson, Marlon Caguiat, Roberto Brillo, and ring bearer Sebastian Raphael Araneta

BRIDESMAIDS Leah Rodriguez, Carissa Olmedo, Lyca Lopez, Gisella Olmedo-Araneta, Barbara Arespacochaga, Danisse Sison, Marian Arespacochaga, Mirabella Desiderio; flower girls Alexandria Mahinay, Gabrielle Nicole Olmedo, Michiko Mahinay

A book on Russia's conversion

THE CONVERSION OF RUSSIA, WHICH OUR Lady of Fatima asked the world to pray for in 1917, is chronicled in Charito Melchor's book "Divine Conspiracy: The Unfolding of the Message of Fatima in Russia."

The author tells of how the request was fulfilled in 1991 when the communist regime was replaced.

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

Published early last year and available at National Bookstore, the book notes how Alex Melchor's appointment as Philippine ambassador to Russia in 1986 seemed divinely guided.

His wife Charito kept journals during their stay in Moscow. When democracy came to Russia and religious freedom was restored, Ms Melchor's journals were ready to be turned into a book.

The late Jaime Cardinal Sin called it a "divine conspiracy" for it was Ambassador Melchor who arranged Cardinal Sin's trip to Russia in 1987.

Through Cardinal Sin's talks with the Russian clergy, his hosts were encouraged to introduce religious reforms. Msgr. Josefino Ramirez, who accompanied Cardinal Sin, brought a pilgrim image of Our Lady of Fatima from Fatima, Portugal, as a gift to Fr. Stanislao Mosheika, then parish priest of St. Louis Cathedral.

Former First Lady Imelda Marcos, who traveled with the group, gave an ivory image of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary that she brought from Tolosa, Leyte. The images are enshrined in the cathedral.

Cultural festival

During a dinner attended by Marcos and Ms Melchor, the wife of the current ambassador to the Philippines, Valentina Nebogatova, credited the late Ambassador Melchor with the opening of Philippine-Russia diplomatic relations when he was executive secretary in 1976.

The two countries recently marked the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations with a "Festival of Russian Culture" at the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

The Bolshoi Ballet performed and international concert pianist Denis Matsuev played famous concertos of Tchaichovsky and Rachmaninoff with the San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra. Matsuev's superb playing earned him a standing ovation.

BOSES ng Diyos all-male choir and manager Tess Alsua, sister of Mark Jimenez, who sends the boys to school.

AUTHOR Charito Melchor receives a rosary from the late Pope John Paul II.

It made me want to read Melchor's book for a glimpse of what Russians were like in talent and artistry and in religiosity. She told me she initially wanted to write about Russian icons that were so beautifully painted. But when the communist regime fell and religious freedom was restored, she had to write a testimony of faith.

Russia was converted as Our Lady of Fatima wanted.

Deleted phrase

The phrase "who once was Mary" in the prayer to Our Lady of All Nations was removed in 2005 by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith out of consideration for those who did not understand the meaning of the words.

In her apparition to Ida Peerdeman from 1949-1959 in Amsterdam, Mary wanted to be called Our Lady of All Nations and gave the prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

The present form of the prayer is: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, send now Your Spirit over the earth, let the Holy Spirit live in the hearts of all nations, that they may be preserved from degeneration, disaster and war. May the Lady of All Nations be our advocate. Amen."

In 2002, Msgr. Punt, bishop of Harleem in Amsterdam, issued a statement recognizing the supernatural origin of the apparitions in Amsterdam.

Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales, archbishop of Manila, enjoined, in a circular, all priests to propagate the devotion to Our Lady of All Nations. He officiated at the Concelebrated Mass last June 10 honoring Our Lady on her Day of Prayer at the Archdiocesan Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Mandaluyong.

Novena

The Carmelite nuns in Barrio Tambacan, Burgos, Pangasinan, are inviting devotees to a novena at 5 p.m., July 7-15, for Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Feast day Mass is at 10:30 a.m., July 16, with Alaminos Bishop Jesus Cabrera as main celebrant.

Call Carmel of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at 0917-3252052.

Choir

During his two years in jail in Pennsylvania, Mark Jimenez had recurring dreams where he heard the words "*boses ng Diyos*." Following his return to Manila, he brought his sister Tess Alsua in January to Bukidnon. They stayed at the Monastery of the Transfiguration.

In Malaybalay, Mark and Tess heard for the first time a male choir that to them sounded like "*boses ng Diyos*." The boys were members of the Monastery of the Transfiguration Boys Choir in the '90s.

The 85 boys of the monastery choir ranged in age from 7-10. Now they are all grown up and the choir has disbanded. They are also not in school.

Mark decided to help them by reviving the choir and putting the members to school. They auditioned with a choirmaster from the Bukidnon State College. Of the 45 who auditioned, only 17 passed.

The 17 boys were brought to Manila by Mark and enrolled them in different schools. Thinking this was what he was meant to do, Mark called the choir Boses ng Diyos. Tess supervises the boys, seeing to it they continue to train under choirmaster Giovanni Macarambong, a graduate of the University of the Philippines Conservatory of Music.

The choir can sing during weddings and receptions. Text 0916-3627499 or call 5216623.

Choir members are: Tenor I—Val Secuya, Sherwin Goc-ong, Virgil Perales and Daryl Pantonial; Tenor II—Rodel Goc-ong, Jeckstin Caontao, Ariel Dayagbil and Clarence Saballa; Base I—Jecel Caontao, Leonides de la Cerna, Erwin Pantonial, Sanez Pestanas and Abello Libante Jr.; and Base II—Renelito Gantalao, Leo Hebra, Junriel Mila and Ricky del Rosario.

> When Alex Melchor was appointed Philippine ambassador to Russia, his wife Charito kept journals during their stay

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

M	E	S	S	E	S	■	F	A	R	■	M	C	M	I	■	S	E	P	A	L
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P	A	S	T	A	■	L	A	S	T	■	E	N	S	■	P	A	D	D	E	D

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60-year-old fiancé wants to wait five more years

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcelo

DEAR EMILY,

I'm 27 years old and I have a fiancé who's 33 years my senior. We met through his brother four years ago when they were visiting Manila.

He's based in the United States. We exchange e-mails, we chat, we talk on the phone and we see each other four times a year. We became engaged two years ago.

When I accepted his proposal, I thought I will only have to wait for a while and we will be married soon. But I've been waiting for him for two years now.

I already asked him when we'd get married. I am being impatient because I love him and I want us to be together soon. He told me he planned to retire from his job five years from now and we would have to wait until then.

I was shocked. Honestly, I don't like to wait for five long years. I didn't say anything because I didn't want him to think I was pressuring him.

My problem is I am beginning to doubt if he loves me enough or if I'm even included in his priorities in life. I'm wondering why we have to wait until he retires when we can be together now. He can take me with him but I think he doesn't want to do that.

Every time I bring up the topic, he seems so uninterested. He's coming to see me in July. I love him very much but I want to ask for a cooling-off period. I want to know if I am important to him.

I'm not sure if this is a good idea though. Will I be putting our relationship at risk if I do that? I don't want to lose him. I just want to know what he feels and thinks about us.

MAGGY

If I put on his thinking cap, I can think of many reasons why he doesn't want to marry you yet and bring you over to the US. One is your age. You're much too young for him and I feel he's afraid to put you on display for fear of losing you to much younger and able men you'll be meeting once you get to the US.

He is probably also afraid you will just use him as a stepping stone to obtain your green card, as has happened in countless May-December marriages.

The fact that he refuses to talk about marriage after two years of engagement says a lot about the guy. Unless he is hiding something from you, like a wife who still hasn't divorced him or a mistress he is keeping on the side or he is still investigating your character to see if you're a gold-digger, I don't see any impediment in tying the knot with you.

This is a damn-if-you-do-damn-if-you-don't scenario. If you ask him pointblank what in heaven's name is his reason for the five-year wait, he might consider you a nag and you might actually lose him.

And if you don't ask him, it's you who will bear the agony of being in limbo, not knowing where you actually stand in his emotional sphere.

If he insists on waiting another five years to get married, you might as well think things over. You will be 32 then and would have waited a total of seven years for an aging man to make up his mind to marry you.

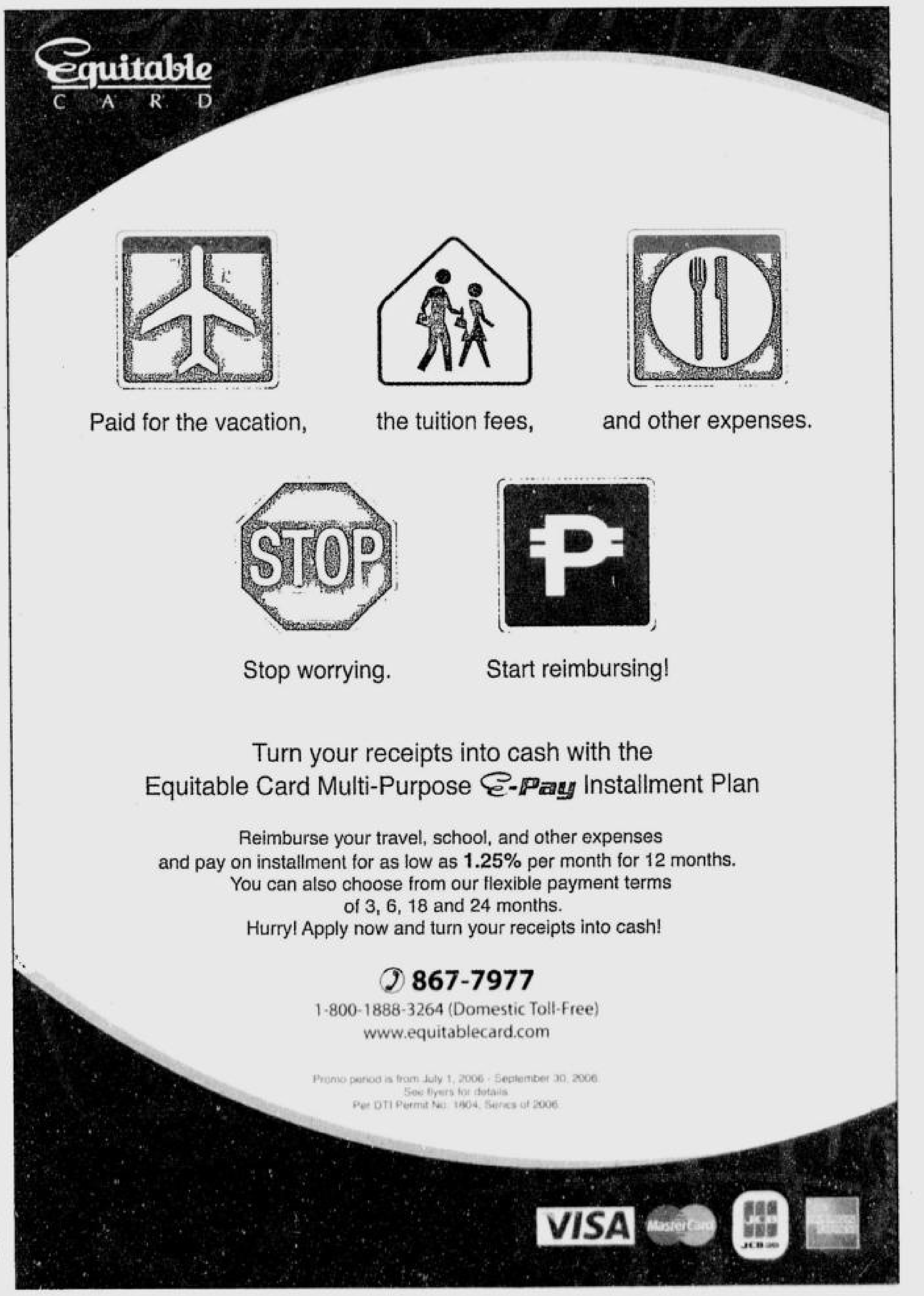
Would you be willing to be possibly just a nurse/maid to a retiree who doesn't want to share his more vibrant years with you while he can; who seems to be making sure someone young will take care of him in his twilight years?

How else can you explain his non-committal stance in this relationship? What is he waiting for anyway? The coming of the next messiah? He's acting like he has plenty of time stashed away!

Do what you think is right for you. Ask for a cool-off if you wish. From my point of view, he is already cold, as it is.

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. *Listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, on dwBR 104.3 FM.*

> 'I'm beginning to doubt if he loves me or if I'm included in his priorities'



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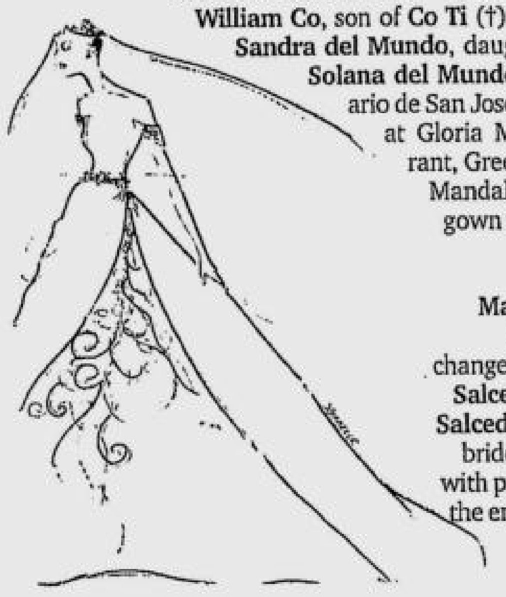
Milestones

We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the INQUIRER, *P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.*

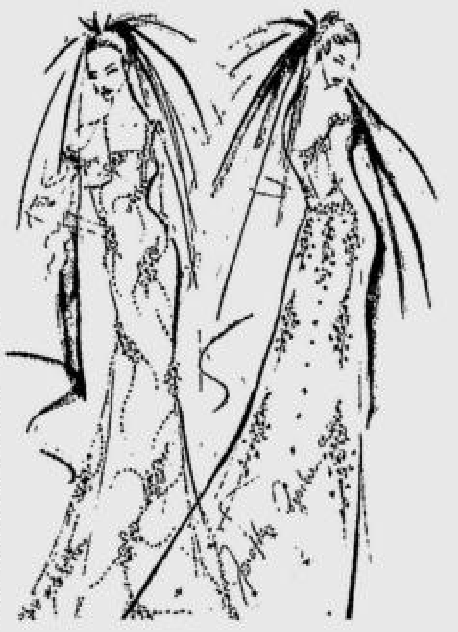
ATIENZA-FABUNAN

Gerald Atienza, son of **Gilberto** and **Evangeline Atienza**, will marry **Cherie Fabunan**, daughter of **Conrado** and **Yolanda Fabunan**, on July 8 at Santisimo Rosario Parish (UST), Manila. The bride will wear a gown designed by **Noli Santiago**.



CO-DEL MUNDO

William Co, son of **Co Ti** (†) and **Sy Lin**, will marry **Sandra del Mundo**, daughter of **Alejandro** and **Solana del Mundo**, on July 13 at Santuario de San Jose. Reception will be held at Gloria Maris Sharkfins Restaurant, Greenhills Shopping Center, Mandaluyong. The bride's gown was by Ysabelle.



SALCEDO-CHAN

Maria Clarissa Chan, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Eduardo Chan**, exchanged vows recently with **Jose Mari Salcedo**, son of Mr. and Ms **Edgardo Salcedo**, at the Fernwood Chapel. The bride wore a white serpentine gown with pearls and Austrian stones, while the entourage wore gowns in pomelo and centrin green, created by **Jonathan Pagaduan**.

IDJAO-PALOMA

Joel A. Idjao, son of **Adriano Idjao** and **Eleanor Arnaiz**, recently wed **Malou B. Paloma**, daughter of **Mrs. Marietta B. vda. de Paloma**, at the Our Lady of Assumption in the Hills, Asuncion, Maasin City, Southern Leyte. Reception-dinner was held at the Mercado Rest House, Ibarra, Maasin City.

SENTURIAS DEBUT

Justine Joy Senturias, daughter of **Eddie** and **Alicia Senturias**, will celebrate her debut today, at Oasis, San Juan. She is a third-year Nursing student at University of the Philippines-Manila.

MOLINA DEBUT

Fiona Lauren A. Molina, daughter of Mr. and Ms **James Molina**, celebrated her 18th birthday yesterday at the Banquet Hall of Every Nation Building at The Fort. She wore a bustier gown of crumpled taffeta in white, with a bias tail and crystal tulle on the bodice, designed by **Rem Divino**.

FASTIDIO DEBUT

Junessa Zyra V. Fastidio, daughter of **Saluada** and **Melissa Fastidio**, will celebrate her 18th birthday today at the Orchard Golf and Country Club, Cavite. **Paul Rex Mateo** designed the debutante's gown.

IFILL DEBUT

Zenita "Princess" Ifill of New York, USA, eldest child and only daughter of **Wilfred Leslie** and **Myrna Ifill**, will celebrate her 18th birthday on July 8 at Villa Inmaculada, Intramuros, Manila. She will be taking up BS Psychology at Long Island University, New York. Her gown was designed by **Paul Mateo** of The Wedding Day.

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Play the PacMan board game!

Knowledge is power, so they say. So, if you know that much about our 'Pambansang Kamao', his latest opponent Oscar Larios, and boxing in general, you'll traipse through this board game like FPJ punches on fast-forward

THE RULES ARE SIMPLE: The object of the game is to reach the Victory block first. The game is played by at least two players. A "referee" is also needed. Each player takes turns throwing the dice, the result of which would correspond to the number of blocks the player moves. Most blocks have multiple choice questions the player should answer in order to "claim" that spot. The referee must check the answer shown at the next page. If the player answers correctly, then he or she can claim that spot. However, should the answer be incorrect, the player must move the piece back to its original position on the board.

There are also "whammy" blocks that either "boost" or "bust" each player's chances. The boost block allows the player to gain another throw with the dice. The bust block, on the other hand, makes the player lose a turn.

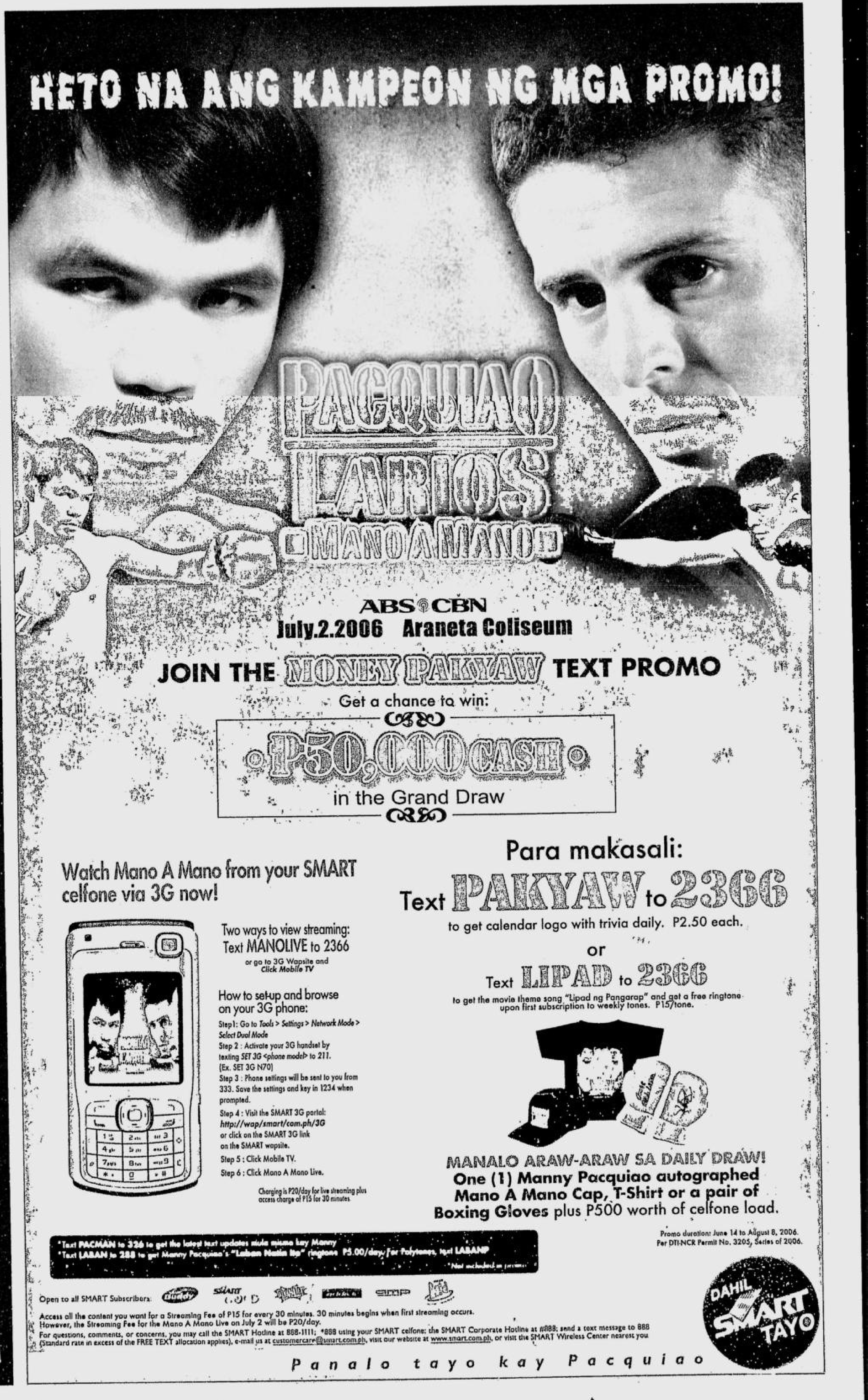
To win, the player must throw the exact number on the dice corresponding to the number of blocks he or she needs to land on the Victory block. For example, if the player needs to move four blocks to reach the Victory block, he or she must get a result of 4 on the dice. If the throw results in a number more than 4, the piece does not move, and the next player gets his or her turn. If the throw results in less than 4, however, the piece moves the corresponding number of blocks.

For added fun this exciting Sunday morning, invite your friends and family along and form two groups representing the "PacMan Camp" and "Chololo Camp", and pit your group's teamwork and mental fighting skills against the other. This game is great for killing time in between rounds during the televised fights.

Tip for the referee: When a player responds with a wrong answer, say "incorrect" and refrain from revealing the correct answer.

Note: The Inquirer is not responsible for actual fistfights caused by playing this board game. As always, losers should blame it on the referee.

Ready to play? Turn the page!



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Step 3 : Phone settings will be sent to you from 333. Save the settings and key in 1234 when prompted.
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Step 5 : Click Mobile TV.
Step 6 : Click Mano A Mano Live.

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or
Text LIPAD to 2366
to get the movie theme song "Lipad ng Pangarap" and get a free ringtone upon first subscription to weekly tones. P15/tone.

MANALO ARAW-ARAW SA DAILY DRAW!
One (1) Manny Pacquiao autographed Mano A Mano Cap, T-Shirt or a pair of Boxing Gloves plus P500 worth of celfone load.

Promo duration: June 14 to August 8, 2006.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3205, Series of 2006.

*Text PACMAN to 326 to get the latest text updates mula mismo kay Manny
*Text LABAN to 288 to get Manny Pacquiao's "Laban Natin Ito" ringtone P5.00/day. For Polytones, text LABANP
*Not included in promo

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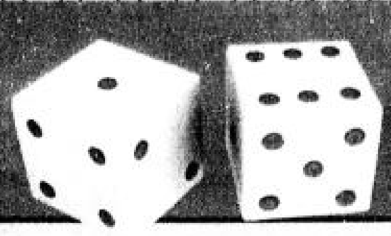
Panalo tayo kay Pacquiao

DAHIL SMART TAYO

Cut out MANNY and OSCAR'S picture to make them your game pieces



1

When was Manny born?
a) Dec. 17, 1978
b) Dec. 17, 1979
c) June 12, 1898
d) March 6, 1978

START HERE

2

"Boost # 1: Coach Freddie says, " You are my son!"
Throw again

3

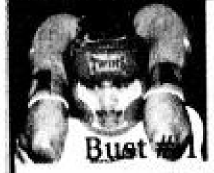
Pacquiao is married to
a) Jinkee Garcia
b) Anne Jamora
c) Jinkee Jamora
d) Pinkee Garcia

4

Manny was chosen Inquirer's Filipino of the Year in
a) 2001
b) 2002
c) 2003
d) 2004

Before Manny donned his boxing gloves, he was
a) kneading dough in a bakery
b) transporting passengers on a pedicab
c) directing traffic in a busy intersection
d) sandpapering his guitar

6



Bust # 1: Ouch! Wrong socks.
Lose a turn

PACQUIAO
EMPOWER

7

Manny shared his PSA Athlete of the Year award in 2003 with
a) Dorothy Delasin
b) Efren "Bata" Reyes
c) Danny Ildefonso
d) Mikee Cojuangco-Jaworski

8

Bust # 2: You're late for practice.
Lose a turn

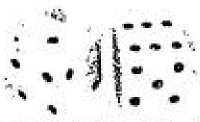
Multiply the round that Pacquiao finally stopped Marco Antonio Barrera by 5, you get
a) 25
b) 55
c) 30
d) 35

10

Manny is called a "southpaw" because
a) He was born in the South
b) He is right-handed
c) He is left-handed
d) He dances like he has two left feet

11

Boost # 2: Wow, 100 in videoke!
Throw again



12

Of Manny's 41 wins so far, how many have come by way of KO?
a) 31
b) 32
c) 33
d) 34

13

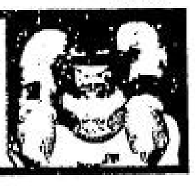
Manny turned pro on
a) Jan. 22, 1995
b) Jan. 23, 1995
c) Jan. 24, 1995
d) Jan. 25, 1995

14

Manny won his World Boxing Council flyweight title on
a) Dec. 6, 1998
b) Dec. 7, 1998
c) Dec. 8, 1998
d) Dec. 9, 1998

15

Bust # 3: Brown out! Where's the opponent?
Lose a turn



16

Manny was inspired by boxing great:
a) Flash Elorde
b) Pancho Villa
c) Luisito Espinosa
d) Rolando Navarrette

17

Manny's proud parents are named
a) Perfecto and Anita
b) Rosseleo and Dionisia
c) Thelma and Luis
d) Roselito and Pernicia

18

Manny's birth name is
a) Emmanuel
b) Manuel
c) Menardo
d) Manny

19

[illegible] song is titled
a) "Ang Laban na 'To"
b) "Ang Tangi Kong Laban"
c) "Laban Kung Laban"
d) "Para sa Yo"

20

Boost # 3: Beer for everyone!
Throw again

21

"Pacquiao: The Movie" was directed by
a) Carlo Caparas
b) Joel Lamangan
c) Marilou Diaz-Abaya
d) Cesar Montano

22

In "Pacquiao: The Movie", Manny is played by
a) Jericho Rosales
b) Richard Gutierrez
c) Himself
d) Piolo Pascual

24

As of June 18, Ring Magazine ranks Manny, pound-for-pound, as
a) # 4
b) # 2
c) # 3
d) # 1

Bulldog's demo of strength

NO OTHER ADHESIVE dares to match Bulldog Super Glue's demonstration of strength as evidenced by a running commercial for the past two years.

The commercial stars actor/director Jon Achaval, whose shoes were fastened to a piece of wood using Bulldog Super Glue. After just five seconds, the 175-pound actor was literally hung upside down by four big men and the strength of Bulldog Super Glue prevailed.

"Nung una, nakakatakot at nakakakaba kasi first time itong gagawin. Tapos walang tali, pansalo or harness. Pero pinatunayan lang ng Bulldog Super Glue na mas mabisa talaga siya kesa ibang brand," says Tina Roxas, one of the witnesses during the shoot of the said Bulldog "Demonstration of Strength".

Actor Jon Achaval himself testified in one of his interviews. "Yes, it was a dangerous stunt. But being a long time avid Bulldog Super Glue user and after we tried and tested the stunt, I was convinced and I believe it would work. We did not even use a safety harness or a cushion...only the belief in the strength and power of Bulldog Super Glue."

Bulldog Super Glue is a scientifically formulated cyanoacrylate glue, manufactured in Japan exclusively for Cord Chemicals Inc. Sheer strength tests done at independent laboratories reveal that Bulldog Super Glue is far stronger than other super glues including globally recognized brands. It's proven as one of the world's strongest. In addition, Bulldog Super Glue works fast in just five seconds and can be used for porous and non-porous materials. Bulldog Super Glue is available in three variants: Steel, All-Purpose, Leather & Wood.

"Super glues used to be something taken for granted. Only Bulldog Super Glue harnessed the ultimate quality and use of super glues. If we can hang a man upside-down using Bulldog Super Glue, just imagine what it can do for your everyday repairs. You can never underestimate the power of Bulldog Super Glue," claims Brian Mijares, brand manager of Cord's Bulldog Super Glue.

To those who haven't seen the commercial, watch out for Bulldog Super Glue's TV commercial, "The Demonstration of Strength" today on ABS-CBN's Pacquiao-Larios fight! Meantime, hurry and get your own Bulldog Super Glue now! Available at all National Bookstore, Ace Hardware, Handyman, True Value, Mercury Drug Store and at all other leading hardware stores nationwide. For inquiries, call 531-1175 and 534-6436.

RETAKE OF PRECEDING FRAME

Special PROJECT

24

What title is at stake in today's fight?
- a) IBF Lightweight
- b) WBC International Super Featherweight
- c) WBA Super Featherweight
- d) WBC Featherweight

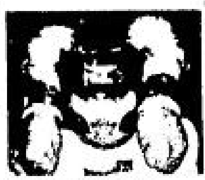
25

Boost # 4: 9 ball in the pocket.
Throw again.

26

Oscar Larios, Manny's latest opponent, is a native of
- a) Puerto Rico
- b) Colombia
- c) Mexico
- d) Cuba

27



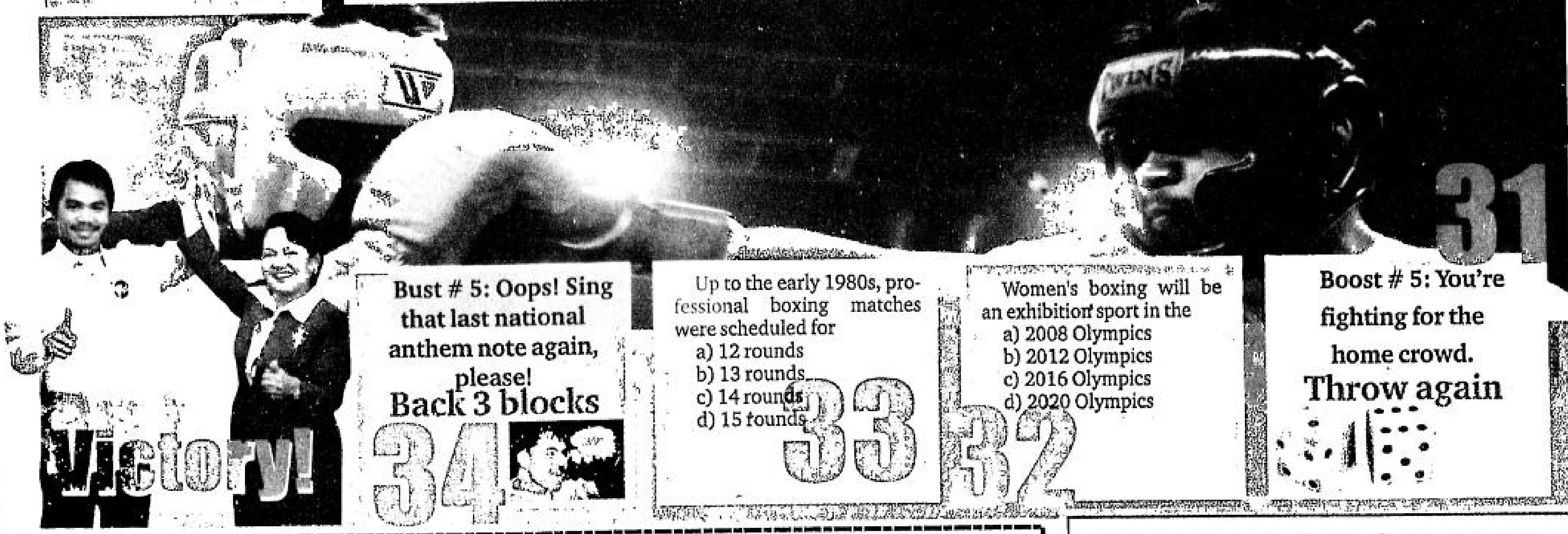
Bust # 4: Ooh, a bum stomach.
Lose a turn

28

Though Manny and Oscar differ in height, they measure the same in reach, which is
- a) 61"
- b) 63"
- c) 65"
- d) 67"

29

"Bakbakan sa Manila" featured Manny vs
- a) Serikzhan Yeshmangbetov
- b) Gaydarbek Gaydarbekov
- c) Igor Alborov
- d) Sherzod Abdurahmonov



30

Boxing became an Olympic sport in
- a) 1912
- b) 1900
- c) 1904
- d) 1896

31

Boost # 5: You're fighting for the home crowd.
Throw again

32

Women's boxing will be an exhibition sport in the
- a) 2008 Olympics
- b) 2012 Olympics
- c) 2016 Olympics
- d) 2020 Olympics

33

Up to the early 1980s, professional boxing matches were scheduled for
- a) 12 rounds
- b) 13 rounds
- c) 14 rounds
- d) 15 rounds

34

Bust # 5: Oops! Sing that last national anthem note again, please!
Back 3 blocks

Answer key for the referee's eyes only

1) a 2) boost 3) c 4) c 5) a 6) bust 7) d 8) bust 9) b 10) c 11) boost 12) c 13) a 14) c 15) bust 16) d 17) b 18) a 19) d 20)
boost 21) b 22) a 23) c 24) b 25) boost 26) c 27) bust 28) d 29) a 30) c 31) boost 32) a 33) d 34) bust

PACQUIAO JOINS TEAM MCDONALD'S

McDonald's scores a total knockout after bagging the former three-time WBC feather weight champion Manny 'Pacman' Pacquiao and his family as the newest endorsers of Chicken McDo, McDonald's crispy, juicy and flavorful fried chicken. Pacquiao inks the deal with (from left) McDonald's chair George Yang, CEO and president Kenneth Yang and Alliance Global vice chair Andrew Tan for a year-long endorsement deal showcasing him, his wife Jinkee and their two sons in a string of advertising efforts to promote McDonald's best-seller Chicken McDo. McDonald's is the world's number one quick service restaurant, now on its 25th year of providing high-quality products at good value to Filipinos.

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LEADER OF THE PAC

This one is for the home crowd. When Manny Pacquiao climbs into the ring to face Oscar "Chololo" Larios this Sunday, July 2nd, it will be his first fight in a Filipino ring since December 2004. Previously, "the Pacman" rocked the boxing world in two epic battles versus Erik "El Terible" Morales, establishing himself as one of the best boxers in the world. As he rose to the pinnacle of boxing, Manny has consistently dedicated every fight to his countrymen, giving all of us a true hero to cheer for.

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*SMART Padala FREE ₱115 SMART Load promo Per DTI Permit No. 2063 series of 2006 See fliers for details

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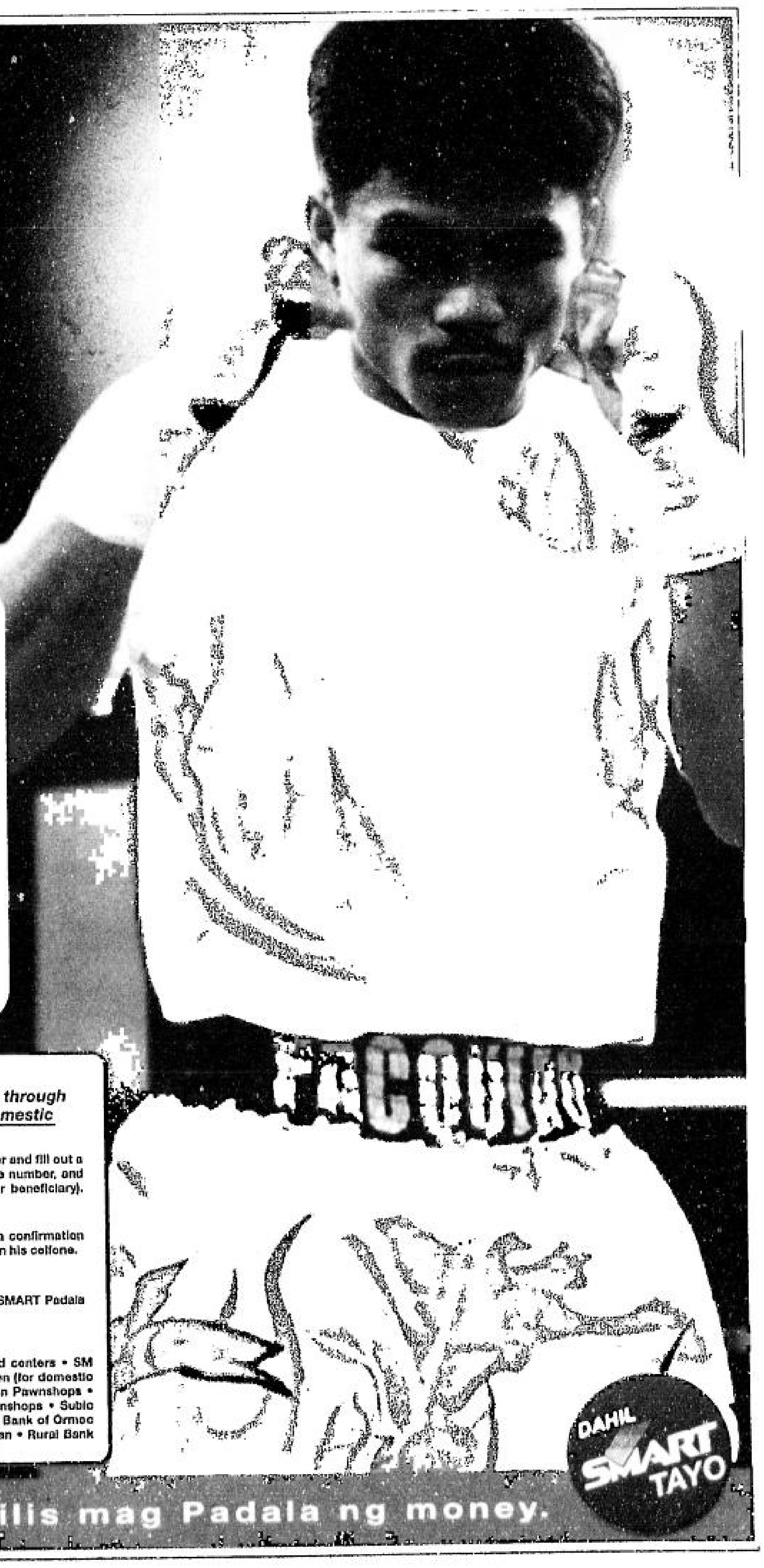

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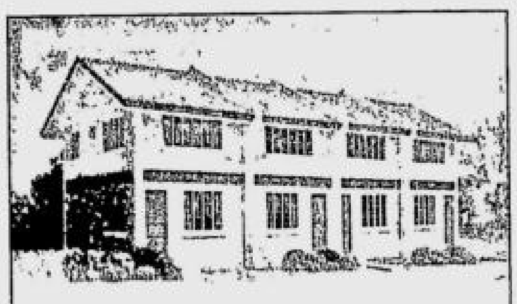

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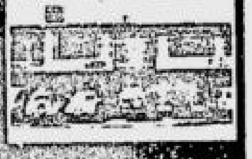

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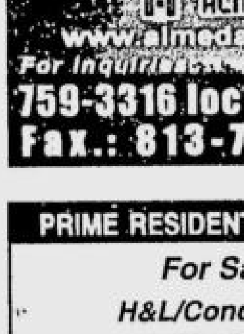

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Alliance for Mindanao Off-grid Renewable Energy 2 (AMORE 2) is a five (5) year project being implemented by Winrock International (WI) in partnership with US Agency for International Development (USAID), Department of Energy (DOE), Mirant Philippines Foundation, and the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). AMORE 2 aims to contribute to the peace and development initiatives in Mindanao by improving the quality of life in unelectrified rural communities through sustainable renewable energy projects and effective community organizing.

A joint Declaration of Principles of Alliance among AMORE 2 partners was signed on February 17, 2006. Under the declaration, the partners committed to energize at least 148 barangays in ARMM under the ARMM 2 Program.

WI invites local and international organizations (with Philippine-based offices), including quasi-academic institutions, to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the Conduct of Community Organizing (CO) for barangays in the following clustered municipalities:

Cluster #	Municipalities	No of Bgys
1	**Sulu:** Pandami & Lugus	16
2	**Maguindanao:** Barira, Buldon, Matanog, Parang, & Sultan Kudarat	11
3	**Maguindanao:** Mamasapano, Pagalungan, Kabuntaran, Shariff Aguak, & Datu Piang	11

Organizations may express interest for one cluster only.

Interest parties must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (company profile, brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

EOIs must be made in writing and delivered to the address indicated below not later than 5:00 pm of July 10, 2006. Electronic copies in PDF formats will also be accepted.

Arthur S. Barrameda, Procurement Officer
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All EOIs shall be evaluated by the AMORE Contracts Review Team. Bidders shall be provided with a format of Request for Proposal (RFP) kit. A pre-bid conference shall also be convened five (5) days after the issuance of RFP kit to discuss details and accommodate inquiries. Only pre-qualified bidders shall be awarded the contract. Pre-qualified organizations shall be notified via fax or e-mail.

WI reserves the right to reject any or all Applications for Pre-qualification, waive any required formality therein, and accept the bid and award the subcontract to the most advantageous offer to the project. WI assumes no responsibility to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred for the preparation of the bids, nor does it guarantee an award will be made.

(PDI - July 2, 2006)

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DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines

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Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

1. The **Department of Education (DepED)**, through the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) intends to apply the amount of **PHILIPPINE PESOS FIFTY SEVEN MILLION & 00/100 ONLY (Php 57,000,000.00)** representing the total Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) of various projects to payments under the contract for the **Printing (from Camera-Ready Materials) and Delivery of Various Instructional Materials** to DepED – Division Offices hereinafter called the "GOODS" indicated below:

Package	Title	Quantities	Approved Budget for the Contract	Enduser
1	6 titles for Readers for Grade 1	50,000 copies each title	Php 6,000,000.00	Bureau of Elementary Education (BEE)
2	2 titles for Readers for Grade 2	50,000 copies each title	Php 11,000,000.00	
3	Elementary Lessons Guides for Grade 1 to 6	50,000 copies for each grade level	Php 30,000,000.00	
4	Preschool Education Handbook for Teachers (PEHT)	15,000 copies	Php 1,100,000.00	
5	18 titles for Basic Level Literacy Program	5,000 copies each title	Php 1,200,000.00	Bureau of Alternative Learning Systems (BALS)
6	32 titles for Session Guides for A & E Core Modules (Elementary Level)	5,000 copies each title	Php 2,200,000.00	
7	64 titles for Session Guides for A & E Core Modules (Secondary Level)	5,000 copies each title	Php 5,500,000.00	
Grand total **APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT (ABC)**			**Php 57,000,000.00**	

Bidders can opt to bid per package or the complete package. Bids received in excess of the ABC per package will be rejected.

2. Estimated Supply and Delivery Completion Period: 120 days. Indicative Printing and Delivery Dates: October 2006 to January 2007. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interests or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar right or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II, Instruction to Bidders of the Bidding Documents.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders starting on **June 26, 2006** until **August 9, 2006** at the BAC Secretariat, Procurement Service, Room 508, 5th Floor, Mabini Building, DepED Complex, Pasig City, upon payment in cash of a non-refundable fee in the amount of **Philippine Pesos Four Thousand & 00/100 Only (Php4,000.00)**. Information is also available at http://www.deped.gov.ph or www.procurementservice.org or call DepED-PS at Tel. no. 636-6543 or Fax No. 633-93-43.
5. The **DepED-BAC** shall hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on **July 27, 2006, 10:00 a.m.** at the **Bulwagan ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Pasig City.**
6. Bids must be received on or before **August 10, 2006,** 10:00 a.m. at the **Bulwagan ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City.** Late Bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened on this date, time and venue in the presence of bidder's representatives who choose to attend.
7. The **DepED-BAC** reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or bidders.

(Sgd.) ATTY. MACUR D. MAROHOMBSAR
BAC Vice Chairperson

(PDI – June 25 & July 2, 2006)

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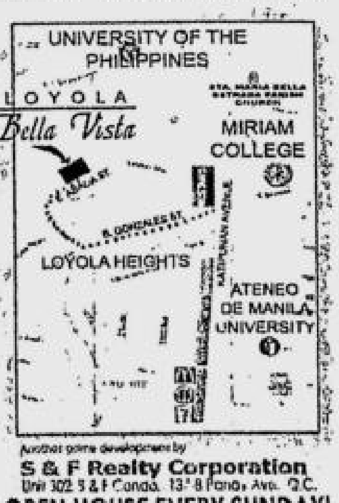
for as low as
5.9M!



3 BR, 4 T&B, MAID'S RM., 2-CAR GARAGE, 24 HR SECURITY
LOYOLA *Bella Vista*
130-132 Esteban Abada St., Varsity Hills Subdivision, Loyola Heights, Quezon City
(02) 920-1193/ 0920-9251885
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S & F Realty Corporation
Unit 302 S & F Condo, 13-B Panay Ave. Q.C.
OPEN HOUSE EVERY SUNDAY!

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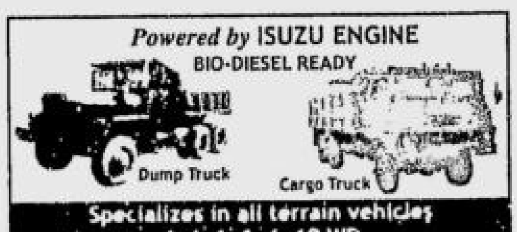

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4x4, 6x6, 6x10 WD
GOLDEN TRANSPORT
Bulua Highway, Cagayan de Oro City
Telefax No. (088) 858-5986 Cell. No. 09203226403

POEA 24-HR HOTLINES 722-1144 • 722-1155

BUILDINGS FOR RENT
1 - FOR SCHOOL OR COMMERCIAL USE
1 - FOR SPORTS FACILITIES, WET & DRY MARKET, OR COMMERCIAL USE

0917 417 77 00

PETRON

Needs

SERVICE STATION DEALERS

for

Locations	Required Cash Capital	Deadline for Submission of Application
1. Mc Arthur Highway, Carmen, Pangasinan	P4.0M	07/10/06
2. 122 Mc Arthur Highway, Marulas, Valenzuela City	P4.0M	07/31/06
3. Tanauan, Batangas	P5.0M	07/31/06

Note: Above capital requirement needed for actual station operation; No up-front money is given to Petron.

Only applicants who can meet the following "MUST" requirements need apply:

a. Must be able to put up required capitalization;
b. Must be able to operate and run the station on full time basis;
c. Must not be an existing dealer of any other oil company.

Preference shall be given to applicants residing near the station being applied for. Previous applicants need not apply.

Please secure your application forms from Luzon Reseller, Petron Corporation Jesus St., Pandacan, Manila c/o Ms. Rosette P. Sanchez at tel. 563-8521 Loc. 282. Submit application forms not later than the deadline specified for each location.

Republic of the Philippines
Municipality of Dolores
Province of Eastern Samar

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Date: July 2, 2006
Contract ID No.: SP-078-IN-01
World Bank Loan No: 446PH

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of Local Government Finance and Development and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract for the ***Construction of Riverbank Development***. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits.*
2. The ***Municipality of Dolores, Eastern Samar*** invites sealed bids from eligible sources for the ***Construction of Riverbank Development*** consists of Embankment, Drainage & Slope Protection structure, River Control Component & Concrete Pavement.
3. Bidding documents may be purchased starting ***July 3, 2006 during office hours at the BAC Secretariat, Municipal Engineering Office, Dolores, Eastern Samar*** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Six Thousand Pesos (P6,000.00)*** or its equivalent in a freely-convertible currency, for each set. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ***ninety (90) days*** after bid opening and must be accompanied by bid security of ***Nine Hundred Thousand Pesos (P900,000.00)*** in a form of cash, certified check, bank guarantee or its equivalent in a convertible currency and shall be delivered to the ***BAC Secretariat, SB Session Hall, 3rd floor Municipal Building Dolores, Eastern Samar on August 2, 2006 at 10:00 A.M.*** at which time they will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.
5. A pre-bid conference will be held on ***July 20, 2006; 10:00 A.M. at the SB Session Hall 3rd floor, Municipal Building Municipality of Dolores, Eastern Samar.***

(Sgd.) Engr. **JUDITH P. ORAYA**
BAC Chairman

(PDI--July 2, 2006)

Republic of the Philippines
National Electrification Administration

Needed Immediately

GENERAL MANAGER

for

V-M-C RURAL ELECTRIC SERVICE COOPERATIVE, INC.
(VRESCO)
Tortosa, Manapla, Negros Occidental

Qualifications:

- 30-50 years old
- Male or Female
- Graduate of Business Administration, Engineering (Electrical, Mechanical, ECE), Accounting, Finance, Management or Behavioral Science
- With Master's Degree or Post-Graduate Degree preferred
- Must have at least five (5) years managerial experience in a utility-related business enterprise
- Must be Computer literate
- Must be willing to relocate with his/her family in Manapla, Negros Occidental

Starting Salary : P 35,000.00

Application form and additional information may be obtained from the Institutional Development Department, 6th Floor, NEA Building, NIA Road, Diliman, Quezon City. Deadline for submission of application form is on 14 July 2006.

(Sgd.) **EDITHA S. BUENO**
Administrator

ILOCOS NORTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Suyo, Dingras, Ilocos Norte 2913
Tel. # 784-7125 to 26 / 784-7547 Fax # 784-7125 TIN 000-716-369

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Ilocos Norte Electric Cooperative, Inc. is inviting proposals for the supply and delivery of an **ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE** customized for electric cooperatives.

The project includes the training of personnel and on a complete and operational with after sales support basis.

Interested suppliers may send their proposals starting July 10, 2006 until July 14, 2006 addressed to:

THE BAC CHAIRMAN
Ilocos Norte Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Suyo, Dingras, Ilocos Norte

INEC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defect or informality, assume no obligation whatsoever of indemnity to the bidders any expense or loss that the bidder may incur in the preparations of its bid and to accept the bid most advantageous to INEC.

(Sgd.) ROMILLAS C. PASCUAL
General Manager

(PDI - July 1, 2 & 3, 2006)

SKYWORLD BUSINESS MERGER, INC.

101 Elena V Bldg. 1038 J. Nakpil cor F. Benitez Streets, Malate, Manila
(632) 524-2454 / 524-3161
POEA License no. 074-LB-020906-PL-e

NOW HIRING FOR CANADA

Financial Assistance Available

COOK / BAKER / PASTRY CHEF
WAITERS / WAITRESSES w/ 3 yrs. experience
AUTO MECHANIC – gas/diesel engine
AUTO PAINTER
FARMER – can operate tractor
BODY MAN & LATERO
TECHNICIAN – Ref. & Aircon., T.V., Video, Fax Machine, Electrical appliances, etc.
INSURANCE AGENTS

Fly now pay later

CERTIFIED PIPE WELDER – (SMAW, FCAW, GTAW) – Refinery & Petro Chemical Plant / Offshore Welding experience an advantage, Lady Pipe Fitters are also welcome
PIPE FITTER – experience in Petro Chemical Company is an advantage; can read blue prints
FABRICATOR – can read blue print; Structural Steel & Plate Fabrication & Fit-up
IRON WORKER – Steel Structure Erector

Note : All salaries are based in Canadian Labour Law

FOR CARRIBEAN ISLANDS

DINING SUPERVISOR W/ Bartending experience

For Manpower Pooling. NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED, BEWARE OF ILLEGAL RECRUITERS. Please submit RESUME with complete Training/Seminar & Employment Certificates at the above address

---

ILOCOS NORTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Suyo, Dingras, Ilocos Norte, PHILIPPINES 2913
Tel. No. (077) 784-75-46 & 47; 784-71-26 & Fax No. (077) 784-71-25

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND FOR BIDS

The Ilocos Norte Electric Cooperative, Inc. has applied for a loan from the Development Bank of the Philippines to finance the construction of its 69 KV power line and invites electrical contractors who are PCAB registered to apply for pre-qualification and to submit bids for the said project:

The project includes the furnishing of labor and materials for the construction of about 37 Kilometers of 69 KV line in the Province of Ilocos Norte.

Interested contractors and suppliers may obtain their pre-qualification forms and bid documents from the INEC main office starting July 17, 2006.

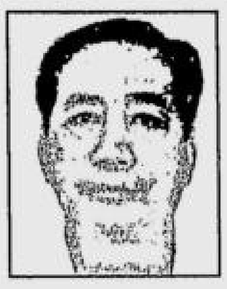
Pre-qualification documents must be received by this office not later than August 07, 2006. Only those pre-qualified shall be invited to bid for the project.

INEC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defect or informality, assume no obligation whatsoever of indemnity to the bidders any expense or loss that the bidder may incur in the preparations of its bid and to accept the bid most advantageous to INEC.

(Sgd.) ROMILLAS C. PASCUAL
General Manager

(PDI – July 1, 2 & 3, 2006)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

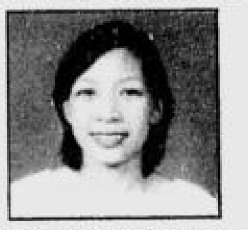


Mr. RODRIGO B. CARAAN
(Whose Picture is shown)
HAS RESIGNED FROM
QUANTUM LYNQS MKTG. CORP.
EFFECTIVE June 23, 2006.
ALL FUTURE TRANSACTIONS SHOULD BE COURSED DIRECTLY TO THE COMPANY IN ORDER FOR IT TO BE HONORED.

THE MANAGEMENT

(PDI - July 2, 2006)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



The public is hereby informed that the above depicted person, **DIDITH KATIGBAK,** is facing a warrant of arrest issued by the Municipal Trial Court in Calamba City, based on Criminal Cases No. 43063-05 to 43105-05, for Falsification of Private Document.

The private complainant is offering a reward for the information of her whereabouts leading to her arrest.

(PDI - July 2, 2006)

Brion as new Labor secretary

COURT OF APPEALS (CA) Associate Justice Arturo D. Brion will formally assume office as new secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) on Monday, July 3, during a simple turn-over ceremony at the DOLE Building in Intramuros, Manila.

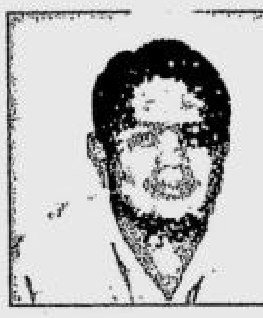
President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo appointed Brion to his new post to succeed outgoing Secretary Patricia A. Sto. Tomas who has been named chairperson of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

Senior officials from DOLE and its attached agencies, bureaus and services are expected to witness the event.

Brion's appointment to DOLE is a homecoming of sorts. At the age of 35, he first joined the DOLE in 1982 as the executive director of the Department's think tank that was then called the Institute for Labor and Manpower Studies (ILMAS)

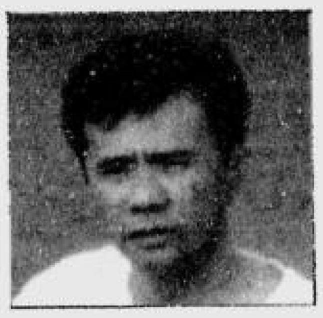
Afterwards, he served as an Assemblyman of Laguna, followed by his appointment as DOLE Deputy Minister in charge of legal and legislative liaison efforts.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



This is to inform the public that **MR. NORMAN G. NOLASCO** whose picture appears above is no longer connected with Prime Peak Properties Ltd., Inc effective June 22, 2006.

Any transaction entered into or made through him for the company shall not be honored.



This is to inform the public that **MR. ROMEO T. PALACPAC** whose picture appears above is no longer connected with Prime Peak Properties Ltd., Inc effective June 28, 2006.

Any transaction entered into or made through him for the company shall not be honored.

(PDI – July 2, 2006)

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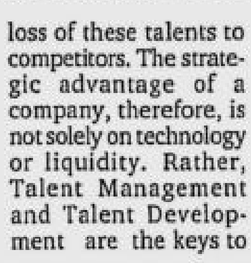
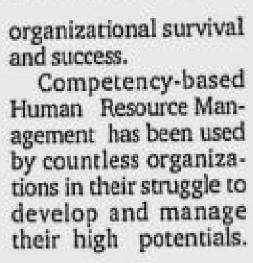
2 MDs, new law grads



PASCUAL



ANTONIO

DRS. TERESA PAZ B. Grecia-Pascual and Tomas S. Antonio, fellows of the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (PSO-HNS) recently graduated from the UP College of Law and Araullo University's Law School Cabanatuan City, respectively. Pascual obtained her law degree last April while Antonio got his degree last year. Among the top 20 outstanding graduates of Batch 2006 of the UP College of Law, Pascual is a practicing otolaryngologist and a diplomate of the Philippine Board of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. While still maintaining her clinical practice and consultant status at the De La Salle Medical Center and Veterans Memorial Medical Center, she is presently reviewing for the bar examinations in September. Antonio, on the other hand, also holds a master's degree in Hospital Administration from UP-Manila and is a Medical Specialist II at the Dr. Paulino J. Garcia Memorial Research and Medical Center.

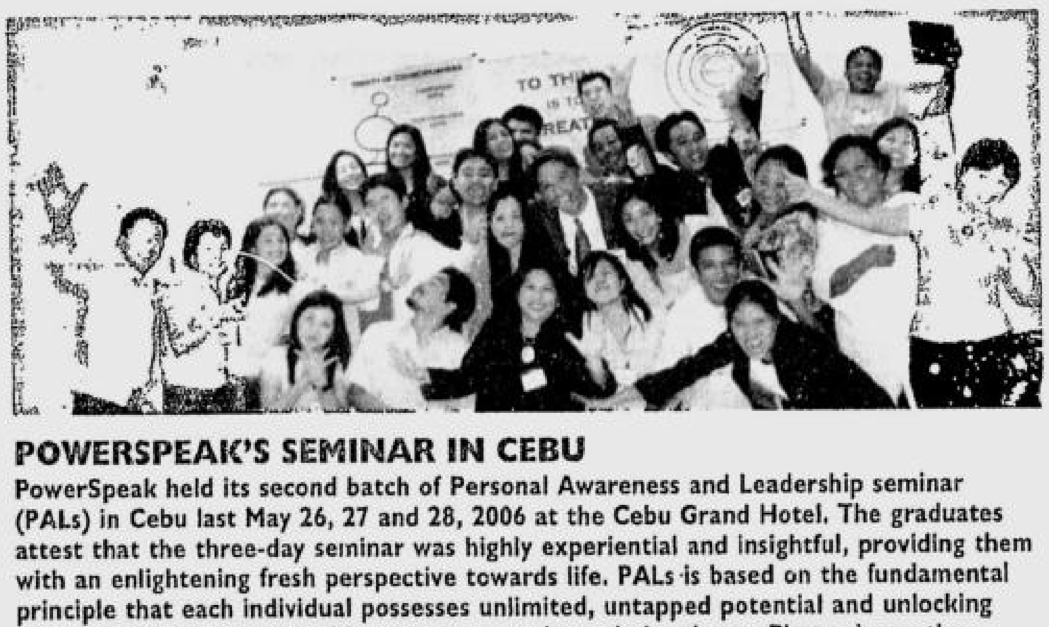
Dr. William Rothwell in Manila

RETENTION AND management of key talents are crucial to the continued success of an organization. Traditional management approaches on new generation talents lead to discontent and eventual loss of these talents to competitors. The strategic advantage of a company, therefore, is not solely on technology or liquidity. Rather, Talent Management and Talent Development are the keys to organizational survival and success.

Competency-based Human Resource Management has been used by countless organizations in their struggle to develop and manage their high potentials. Together with Values-Modeling, organizations can now leverage up their productivity by identifying these elements of enduring success and integrating these into their human resource systems. This blueprint may just be your competitive advantage as well!

Reinvent Human Resources Management in your organization! Institute of Training and Development (ITD) Consulting Group brings you, Dr. William J. Rothwell, the Mega Guru of Strategic Talent Management, Competency and Values Modeling. Dr Rothwell is President of Rothwell and Associates Inc and a professor in Pennsylvania State University. See and hear him live on July 13 - 14, at the ballroom of the Mandarin Oriental Manila.

Revolutionize your organizations and be one step ahead of the competition! Register Now! You can call ITD Consulting Group at 887-7428 or email itdmanila@itd.com.my.



POWERSPEAK'S SEMINAR IN CEBU

PowerSpeak held its second batch of Personal Awareness and Leadership seminar (PALs) in Cebu last May 26, 27 and 28, 2006 at the Cebu Grand Hotel. The graduates attest that the three-day seminar was highly experiential and insightful, providing them with an enlightening fresh perspective towards life. PALs is based on the fundamental principle that each individual possesses unlimited, untapped potential and unlocking these allows a person to achieve greater results and abundance. Photo shown the graduates of PALs with the facilitator Joey P. Reyes 3rd in the middle wearing a suit. PALs Cebu batch 3 is slated on July 7, 8 and 9 at the Cebu Grand Hotel while in Manila is on July 28, 29 and 30 in Makati. Interested parties in Manila may inquire at (02) 8405958 and (02) 840-5960, or text 0917-5555639 and in Cebu (032) 2722700 or 0917-3252952. You may also email them at powerspeak@gmail.com or log on to www.powerspeakph.com.

AMA BANK OPENS BRANCH IN BAGUIO CITY

Ama Bank, the largest used car loan bank opened a new branch at Baguio City. Present in the ribbon-cutting ceremony are (from left) AMA Bank EVP/COO Alejandro Soliman, AMA Bank Baguio Branch Manager Leticia Reyes, AMA Bank Cashier Virginia Famarin, AMA Bank Client Purificacion Tanglao, Baguio Bishop Carlito Cenzon , Baguio Mayor Braulio Yaranon, AMA Bank Branch Manager Lourdes Quitoriano, and AMA Bank AVP Roberto Bombasi.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

BARATO NA, GA-AN PA SA BULSA !!!

UNIONBANK

SPECIAL PUBLIC AUCTION

July 29, 2006
9:00 AM
Saturday
AT ALL VENUES

ONLY 10% DOWNPAYMENT !!!

13% PA FIXED FOR THE FIRST 3 YRS. 15% PA FIXED FOR THE NEXT 12 YRS.

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Cebu Country Club
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BACOLOD
Venue: UBP Araneta Br.
DL:(034) 435-0664; 435-0665

CAGAYAN DE ORO
Venue: UBP Lapasan Br. DL: (088) 856-3805

DAVAO
Venue: UBP Recto Branch
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RESIDENTIAL / AGRICULTURAL

BACOLOD CITY - Poblacion	MIN BID
1. H&L/Lot332-EE,Ciocon Rd TLA 392 / TFA 489	5,000,000
BACOLOD CITY	**MIN BID**
Medel / Woodstock Quest Subd, Tangub (near Bacolod Bel-Air Subdivision)	
2. Lot / Lot 48 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
3. Lot / Lot 49 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
4. Lot / Lot 50 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
5. Lot / Lot 59 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
6. Lot / Lot 73 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
7. Lot / Lot 74 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
8. Lot / Lot 84 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
9. Lot / Lot 85 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
10. Lot / Lot 86 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
11. Lot / Lot 95 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
12. Lot / Lot 96 Blk 13 / LA 72	80,000
13. Lot / Lot 75 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
14. Lot / Lot 76 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
15. Lot / Lot 77 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
16. Lot / Lot 78 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
17. Lot / Lot 79 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
18. Lot / Lot 80 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
19. Lot / Lot 87 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
20. Lot / Lot 89 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
21. Lot / Lot 90 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
22. Lot / Lot 91 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
23. Lot / Lot 92 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
24. Lot / Lot 93 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
25. Lot / Lot 94 Blk 13 / LA 72	65,000
26. Lot / Lot 100 Blk 13 / LA 92	83,000
La Herencia Negrense Subd,Mandalagan	
27. Lots / L-2&5 B-8 / TLA-585	644,000
28. Lot / L-11 B-12 / LA-655	721,000
29. Lot / L-29 B-27 / LA-435	479,000
30. Lot / L-31 B-27 / LA-413	455,000
31. Lot / L-32 B-27 / LA-350	385,000
32. Cor Lot / L-33 B-27 / LA583	700,000
33. Cor Lot / L-2 B-31 / LA-601	722,000
34. Cor Lot / L-13 B-31 / LA689	827,000
35. Cor Lot / L-28 B-28 / LA675	810,000
ILOILO CITY – Monica	**MIN BID**
36. Resl. Lot / Lot 1150-B Calle Dela Rama / LA 383	900,000
ROXAS CITY – Capiz	**MIN BID**
37. Fishpond / Lot 2768-A Tico, Pan-ay / LA 100,017 (w/ occupant)	1,500,000
CEBU CITY - Banilad	**MIN BID**
38. Lot / Lots 20 & 6-D Paseo Annette Ma.Luisa Estate Park Subd. / TLA 1,158	5,211,000
GENERAL SANTOS CITY	**MIN BID**
39. Agri/Lot-3,Conel/LA67,668	3,440,000
40. Resl Lot / Lot 1347-B-4,Cabe Subd/ LA 10,038 (w/ Lis Pendens & occupants)	9,544,000

JUST BRING P20,000 (CASH OR MC) SHOW MONEY TO QUALIFY TO BID FOR EACH PROPERTY. CWT IS FOR THE ACCOUNT OF THE BUYER. ALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE ARE ON "AS IS WHERE IS" BASIS. Unionbank May, at anytime, withdraw any / all of the Properties listed above prior to auction.

RESIDENTIAL / AGRICULTURAL

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY	MIN BID
Puerto Hts. Vill., Puerto (near P. Market)	
41. Lot / L 34 Blk 1 / LA 323	1,236,000
42. Lot / L 25 Blk 2 / LA 343	1,312,000
43. Lot / L 4 Blk 5 / LA 384	1,469,000
44. Lot / L 5 Blk 5 / LA 363	1,389,000
45. Lot / L 8 Blk 5 / LA 369	1,412,000
46. Lot / L 10 Blk 5 / LA 445	1,703,000
47. Lot / L 14 Blk 5 / LA 440	1,683,000
48. Lot / L 16 Blk 5 / LA 308	1,179,000
49. Lot / L 6 Blk 6 / LA 314	1,201,000
50. Lot / L 7 Blk 6 / LA 350	1,339,000
51. Lot / L 10 Blk 6 / LA-305	1,167,000
52. Lot / L 11 Blk 6 / LA-318	1,217,000
53. Lot / L 20 Blk 6 / LA-304	1,163,000
54. Lot / L 26 Blk 6 / LA 357	1,366,000
55. Lot / L 30 Blk 6 / LA 353	1,351,000
56. Lot / L 3 Blk 7 / LA 386	1,477,000
57. Lot / L 4 Blk 7 / LA 404	1,546,000
58. Lot / L 5 Blk 7 / LA 375	1,435,000
59. Lot / L 6 Blk 7 / LA 393	1,504,000
60. Lot / L 7 Blk 7 / LA 360	1,377,000
61. Lot / L 8 Blk 7 / LA 383	1,465,000
62. Lot / L 9 Blk 7 / LA 370	1,416,000
63. Lot / L 10 Blk 7 / LA 402	1,538,000
64. Lot / L 12 Blk 7 / LA 376	1,439,000
65. Corner Lot / L 19 Blk 7 / LA 3	1,563,000
DAVAO CITY - Ma-a, Talomo	**MIN BID**
beside Las Terrazas & Dinaville (Lots)	
66. Lot 410 E 1 / LA 12,000	5,520,000
67. Lot-410 E 2 / LA 12,000	5,520,000
68. Lot 410 E 3 / LA 12,059	5,550,000
69. Lot 410 E 4 / LA 12,000	5,520,000

COMMERCIAL

CEBU CITY – Port Centre (Lot)	MIN BID
70. *Lot 3,Cabahug St.LA 1,100	15,405,000
CEBU CITY – Basak Pardo	**MIN BID**
71. * Ind'l Lot w/ W'Houses Lots 4761 & 4768,Cebu South Rd TLA 3,109 / TFA 2,499 (on lease)	21,600,000
72. *Ind'l.Lot w/ W'Hse/ Offc. Lots 4759, Cebu South Road LA 2,688/TFA 2,186 (On lease)	18,400,000
73. *Comml. Lot w/ 6 sty. Bldg L-7624-C -1-B & 7624 C-3 Colon, Pahina Central Sambag LA 660 70 / TFA 2,797 (on lease)	76,005,000
MISAMIS ORIENTAL	**MIN BID**
74. *Industrial Lot w/ bldgs,Old Natl Hi-way, Luz Banzon Jasaan / TLA 5,464 / TFA 1,589 (beside Pilipinas Kao)	9,257,000
DAVAO CITY	**MIN BID**
75. * Lot / Lots 1-L-3-B-2, 1-L-3-D-2-C & 1-L-3-D-1-D, P. Bangoy / TLA 1,976 (near Magsaysay Park)	27,230,000
76. Lot / Lots 1-L-3-H-3-B-1 & 1-L-3-H-3-B-2, J.Luna / TLA 544	4,004,000
77. Lot / Lot 1-L-3-H-3-B-3, Juan Luna / TLA 271 (w/ occupants)	2,000,000

* SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

GARMA CLINIC
VD SPECIALIST
VD GONORRHEA, WARTS SYPHILIS, STD, HERPES
ADULT CIRCUMCISION
Painless, Bloodless
SKIN DISEASES
ALLERGIES RE-CURRENT
UTI, ALMORANAS,
ERECTION PROBLEMS
INFERTILITY/IMPOTENCE
MOLE/CYST/SCAR REMOVAL
KELOID/PAP SMEAR
COMPLETE LABORATORY
Garma Bldg., No. 8 Purdue St., Cubao, Q.C.
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4373898/9139474

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LEGAL NOTICE

Deed of Extra-Judicial Settlement of ARSENIO SY SANTOS SR Estate among the heirs under Doc No 479 Page 97 Book 98 Registry of Atty Patricio Boncayao Jr. Of Muntilupa City (PDI-July 2,9&16,2006)

Notice is Hereby Given that the Estate of the late HILARION RONGAVILLA was extrajudicially settled among Heirs Before Notary Public Luis S. Salas of Pasay City Doc. #407 Page 82 "Book#1,Series of 2006 (PDI June 18,25 & July 2'06)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ANGELO A. OBCENA who died in estate was settled extra-judicially among heirs before Public Atty. Paulino I. Saguyod of Paniqui, Tarlac Doc#83 Page#17 Book#III Series of 2006. (PDI - June 18, 25 & July 2, 2006)

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of the late FRANCISCO R. CLEMENTE who died in Milwaukee,-State of Wisconsin,USA,on February 21,1970,has been settled estrajudicially among his heirs in an EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH WAIVER AND/OR QUITCLAIM,dated March 2006,pursuant to section1,Rule 74 of the Rules of Court,and acknowledged before the Philippine Consulate in Chicago USA,before Consul Patrick John U. Hilado,on April 25,2006
(PDI- June 25,July 2&'06)

NOTICE is hereby given that the ESTATE OF THE LATE CHARLIE E. CORONEL had been the subject of a Deed of EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT of Estate WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS /INTERESTS Among the HEIRS under Doc. No. 77 Page No. 17 Book No. III Registry of Atty. Wendell E. Coronel of Makati City. (PDI June 18, 25&July 2,2006)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Sps. EDGARDO VERA ENRIQUEZ & THELMA RAMOS PALOMAR-ENRIQUEZ was extrajudicially settled by the heirs as per Doc#378 Page#VIII Book#262 series of 2005 by Notary Public Atty. Antonio K. Resurreccion of Obando, Bulacan.
(PDI July 2, 9 & 16, 2006)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late JULIA B. PIMENTEL was extrajudicially settled by her heirs on April 20, 2006, per Doc No. 003499, Series of 2006 and JULIETA PIMENTEL PINEDA before Marina Lourdes C. Legaspi, Consul of the Philippines in New York, USA; and before Patrick John V. Hidalgo, Consul of the Philippines in Illinois, USA, by Aurora Pimentel and Gloria Pimentel, who are residents of Chicago, Illinos,USA.
(PDI-July 2, 9 & 16, 2006)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late DAVIDSON ABAYON was extrajudicially settled by the heirs as per Doc#202 Page#336 Book#75 series of 2006 by Notary Public Atty. Lope M. Valasco of Makati City.
(PDI-July 2, 9 & 16, 2006)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late MARINA G. BERNABE was extrajudicially settled w/ waiver of rights among her heirs as per Doc #267, Page #54, Book #24, Series of 2006 under Notary Public Gaudencio Barboza at Pasig City
(PDI- June 18, 25, July 2, 2006)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given that MWC Stk Cert. #004851 in the name of Demosthenes &/or Michaelangelo &/or Michelle Du is lost. If no contest received, new cert. will be issued. (July 2,9&16,2006)

Notice is hereby given that S2 License ID#23284N04 issued to LOIDA SIBUNGA were declared lost. If found Call 833-0012.
(PDI- July 02, 2006)

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Wife of the late Dr. Mariano B. Apacible, Sr., Ph.D.

Peacefully joined her Creator
on June 30, 2006 at the age of 97.

She is survived by her children: **Mariano Buenaventura, Jr.** and **Mariquita, Dulce Paz vda. de Aragon, Ma. Nenuca** and **Deogracias Bustos, Jr., Frine Lydia Kates, Medardo Benjamin** and **Corazon, Ma. Theresa Acuña, Marvin Bienvenido** and **Marivic**, grandchildren, great grandchildren, brothers and sisters.

Her remains lie in state at the Nacional Memorial Homes, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Thursday, July 6, 2006 at Loyola Memorial Park, Parañaque City after the 2 p.m. Mass.

TAN SIU GIN

(NENA TAN JAO)

of Sta. Cruz, Marinduque & Manila

Peacefully joined her Creator on June 29, 2006
at the age of 96.

Her beloved husband, **Jao Bio Chiong** (†); loving children **Sancho & Isabel, Eufronio (Efren) & Mary, Renato (Rene) & Maxima, Adalia & Victor Uy** (†), **Dionisio (Jun) & Rosario, Helen** (†) **& Henry Tan, Liberato (Levi) & Ana Maria**; grandchildren & great grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel 1 (Ascencion), La Funeraria Paz, C.M. Recto Ave., Manila.

Interment will be on Thursday, July 6, 2006 at Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque at 1:00 p.m.

10TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY
In loving memory of

TEOFISTA HENSON DANGANAN VDA. DE QUIASON

September 16, 1902 – July 4, 1996
Angeles, Pampanga, Gagalangin
and Cubao, Quezon City

Holy masses will be offered at the following churches:

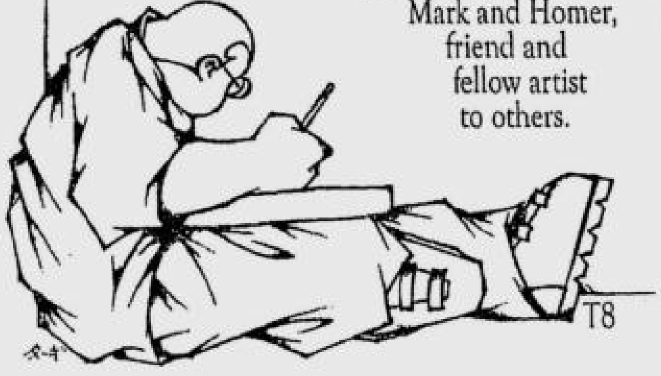
Holy Rosary Parish Church (Angeles City, Pampanga)	- 6:30 a.m.
St. Joseph de Gagalangin Parish Church	- 6:30 a.m.
Immaculate Concepcion Cathedral Parish Church (Lantana St., Cubao, Quezon City)	- 7:00 a.m.
Christ the King Parish Church (Green Meadows, Quezon City)	- 7:00 a.m.
Parish of the Holy Sacrifice Church (U.P. Diliman, Quezon City)	- 6:00 a.m.
Sacred Heart Parish Church (Kamuning, Quezon City)	- 6:00 a.m.
The Nativity of the Lord Parish Church (Ermin Garcia, Cubao, Quezon City)	- 6:30 a.m.
Sanctuario de San Jose Church (Greenhills, San Juan)	- 7:15 a.m.
St. John Seminary, Diocese of Los Angeles (Los Angeles, California)	- 7:00 a.m.
Queenship of Mary Parish Church (Plainsboro, New Jersey, USA)	- 7:00 a.m.
St. Dennise Church (Los Angeles, CA)	- 7:30 a.m.

The families of Camilo and Serafin are kindly requesting all their loved ones, relatives, close friends and pious readers to join them in prayers for the eternal repose of her spirit.

In Loving Memory
on the third death anniversary of

Miguel Antonio P. Taguiwalo

(October 18, 1984 - July 2, 2003)



Beloved son of Mario and Beaulah,
youngest brother of
Mark and Homer,
friend and
fellow artist
to others.

We called him Mike.
His brother called him Bones.
His friends called him Tagui.
He signed his artworks T8. And also Tagui8.

"For what is it to die, But to stand in the sun and melt into the wind? And when the Earth has claimed our limbs, then we shall truly dance." Kahlil Gibran

---

TO DEAR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF THE LATE CESAR T. ARCE

CES' TIME IN THIS WORLD WAS CUT SHORT BY A FATAL HEART CONDITION HE DID NOT KNOW HE HAD. CES WAS 50 YEARS OLD.

WE, HIS IMMEDIATE FAMILY, THANK YOU FOR THE LOVE, TRUST AND FRIENDSHIP YOU ACCORDED HIM DURING HIS LIFETIME. HE SPOKE KINDLY OF ALL OF YOU AND OFTEN SAID HE WOULD NEVER FORGET THE WONDERFUL RELATIONSHIPS YOU ALLOWED HIM TO ESTABLISH WITH EACH OF YOU.

HOW GRATEFUL AND APPRECIATIVE WE ARE OF THOSE WHO CONDOLED, COMFORTED AND SUPPORTED US DURING CES' WAKE AND BURIAL. INDEED, YOU ALL SHOWED OUR FAMILY THAT FRIENDS AND RELATIVES ARE THE MOST VALUABLE TREASURES IN THIS LIFE.
GOD BLESS YOU ALL

CESAR JULIAN T. ARCE
18 OCTOBER 1955 -07 JUNE 5, 2006

ROMEO 'MIMI' ILAGAN CRUZ

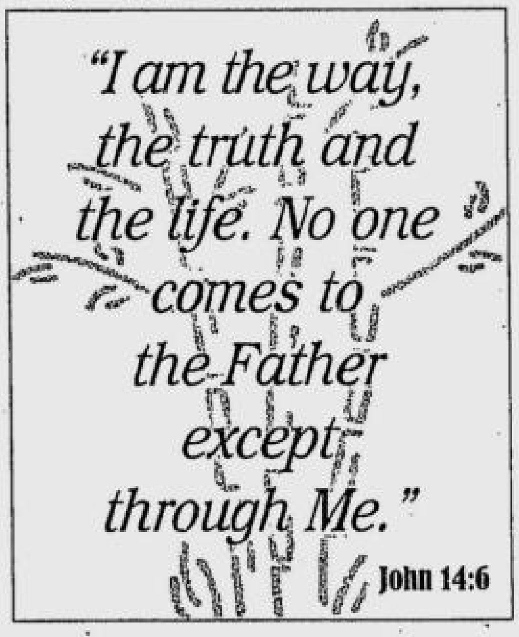
originally from Taal, Batangas

Peacefully joined our Lord and his parents
PILAR DIOKNO ILAGAN CRUZ** and **ANTONIO CRUZ
on June 29, 2006.

His bereaved sister and sister-in-law, **Fe** and **Lourdes**, nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives request the pious readers to join them in prayers for his eternal happiness in heaven.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will be on July 5, 2006.



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the truth and
the life. No one
comes to
the Father
except
through Me."
John 14:6

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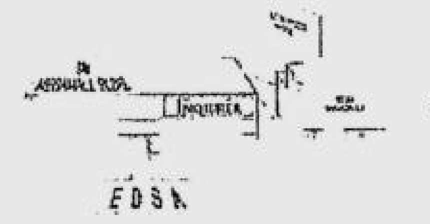

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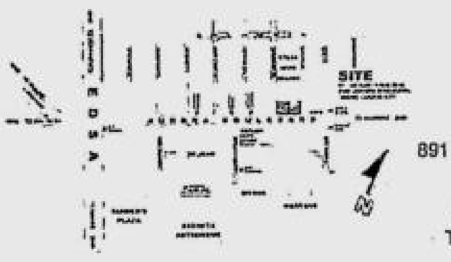

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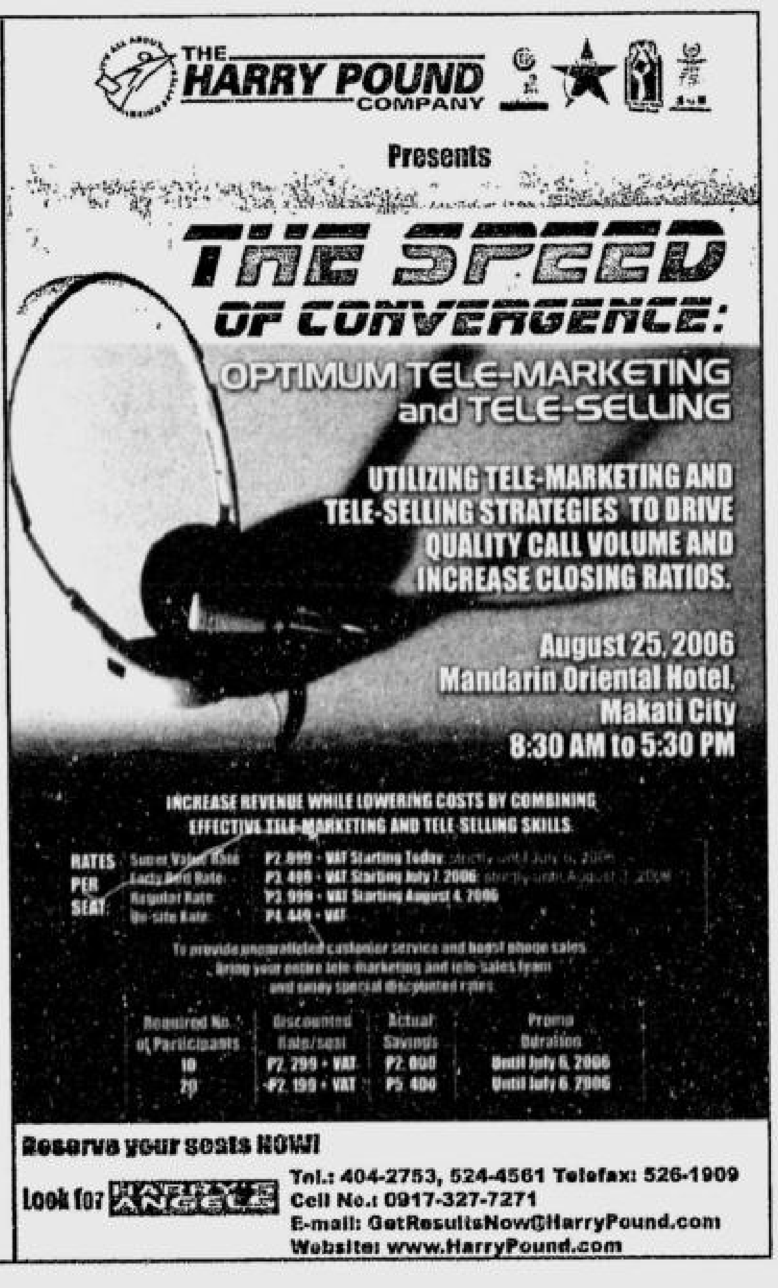
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Pinoy paper company thrives amidst multinational brands

IT'S A GIVEN FACT THAT local brands face stiff competition from their international rivals. However, succeeding in a very competitive market isn't unattainable, as shown by Sanitary Care Products Asia (SCPA), the company behind some of the most trusted local tissue paper brands.

Celebrating its 10th successful year, SCPA has steadily grown to become a major importer of high quality raw materials that it uses to produce brands like the Sanicare hygienic tissue line and the Cheers household napkins, both of which are becoming the top-ranked hygienic paper brands in many major supermarkets in their respective segments. SCPA also has two other brands that feature imported materials, namely Tisyu and Femme, which are marketed towards upward-moving Pinoys and quality conscious women. All products are made using ultra-hygienic 100% virgin pulp, and made even special because it does not use artificial whiteners.

People in the know can discern virgin pulp tissue nowadays because of its distinct off-white appearance, evidence of the non-usage of whitening chemicals and chlorine. Also, the feel of virgin pulp paper is softer but, because it has never been recycled before, it retains its wet strength, making it a lot less likely to produce lint or himulmol.

The decreased lint/himulmol content is very important because tissue paper comes in contact with our skin, which is why promoting the use of hygienic virgin pulp stock is a major concern and practice constantly observed by SCPA.

SCPA takes pride in the fact that it is one of the few all-Filipino companies that can flourish in today's highly-competitive business environment. "We've always believed that product quality and affordability go hand in hand to satisfy consumers," says SCPA Vice-President, Mr. Ven Sio.

Another factor that lets SCPA compete with global brands is its strong trade suppliers from various countries. Currently, SCPA is able to offer low-cost, high quality tissue paper because of its supply chain methods. It imports bulk tissue paper in high quality jumbo rolls from countries with large, modern facilities and low production expenses. Mr. Sio adds: "In many ways, we are also a global company because we recognize the technical advantage of these countries and utilize our resources to take these superior products and make it available to Filipinos."

From its humble beginnings in Taguig, SCPA has indeed grown to become a major and respected player in the paper tissue industry. In the future, the company looks to expand its horizons by opening new factories in the country's southern region and possibly finding more high quality products to add to its lineup.

Currently, SCPA is busy educating consumers about the virtues of the virgin pulp stock, a thrust that the company takes seriously. "We want to emphasize to our consumers that we will continue to offer affordable tissue paper products without compromising on quality. We wish to make consumers realize that they must never settle for poor quality just to enjoy products that are within their budget," says Sio.

Indeed, SCPA takes the lead that local companies have the capacity to compete and even outshine their multinational counterparts. All it takes is a sincere commitment to excellence and quality, values that SCPA has always adhered to faithfully.

All SCPA products are found in major grocery and convenience stores nationwide. For more corporate and product information, please contact their trunk line at 838-7301/ 02 or visit http://www.sanicare.com.ph.

PNU Board of Regents elects new president

AFTER THREE MONTHS thorough search undertaken by the Search Committee headed by Dr. Minda C. Sutaria, the PNU Board of Regents chaired by Dr. Nenalyn P. Defensor (CHED commissioner) elected lawyer Lutgardo B. Barbo as the new PNU president. Barbo replaced Dr. Nilo L. Rosas and will serve a term of four years beginning June 27.

Lawyer Barbo is a graduate of the Philippine Normal College Class 1966 and taught for four years at Llorente, Eastern Samar, became a Research and Trial Attorney and a consultant of many public and private organizations. He served as a three-term Governornor of Eastern Samar and was a recipient of the Lingkod Bayan Presidential Award of the Civil Service Commission in 1997. He is currently a faculty member of Ateneo School of Governance. He brings to the university wide-range of managerial skills as it responds to the demands of its stakeholders: faculty, students and alumni towards PNU's modernization.

JOB Market
SUNDAY, JULY 2, 2006
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For jobseekers, log on to:
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JOB Market is exclusively for job advertisements. This special section comes FREE with your copy of the INQUIRER published every Sunday and distributed in key cities
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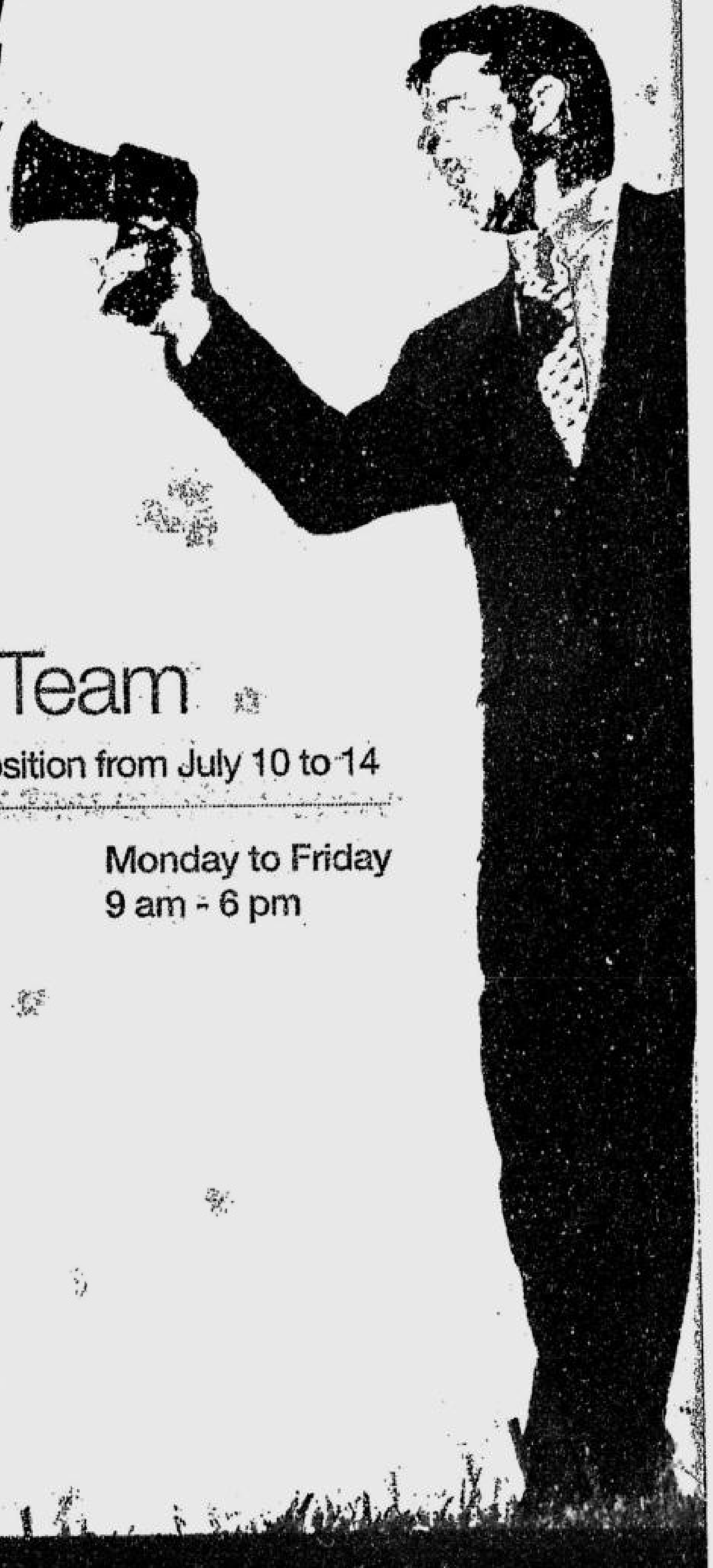

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Mondays to Fridays 9 am to 8 pm, Saturdays 9 am to 6 pm

Also be a part of the Workforce Management and Quality Teams

Openings and Qualifications:

Workforce Specialists

- Must have an extensive background on reporting and analyzing
- Must be highly proficient in MS Excel
- Should be adept in data manipulation, collection, and analysis
- Should be knowledgeable in Real-Time Analysis and Monitoring
- Must be skilled in database management and information technology
- Workforce experience is not a requirement but an advantage.
- If without Workforce experience, the following are also qualified:
  - Management Information System (MIS) Specialists
  - Reporting Analysts
  - Systems Analysts
  - Financial Analysts
  - Quality Analysts

Workforce Leaders

- Must have at least six (6) months experience as a Workforce Leader
- Must have at least two (2) years experience in Workforce

Quality Specialists

- Must be highly proficient in MS Excel reporting and adept in other PC skills
- Must be familiar with Quality concepts.
- Must have background on conducting transactional monitoring and coaching to CSR's and in conducting support documentation and training as needed by the account
- Should have qualities of openness in working with multiple cultures and willingness to work on a shifting schedule to support US, EMEA and Asia time zones

Quality Manager

- Should have at least six (6) years experience in a related field
- Must have BPO experience, preferably in Operations, or Assistant Managers/ Managers specializing in Customer Service or equivalent
- Must have experience in project implementation

Workflow Manager

- Must have at least a minimum of 2 - 4 years hands-on experience in directly managing a team in a call center environment.
- Must be highly proficient in MS Excel and data analysis.
- Working knowledge of IEX software and Real Time Monitoring CCPulse is preferred.

Young? Energetic? Ambitious?

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- Telecommunications (Voice Support)
- Consumer Manufacturing Co. (Voice/Email Support)
  - HR back office support (Speaks Mandarin & Cantonese)
- Internet Shopping Company (Email/Chat Support)

Qualifications:

- Must have completed 3 years of college education or a 2-year vocational course
- Must possess excellent oral and written English communication skills
- Proficient in the use of computers and various applications
- Willing to work in a fast-paced, dynamic and schedule-shifting environment

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SM

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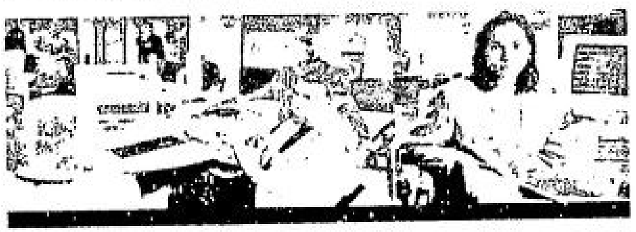

Metro Manila **and Soon To Open Branch** ***SM Lipa***

Building Administration Manager / Officer

(Sta. Rosa)

The successful candidate will be reporting to the Branch Operations Manager of the assigned branch. He will be responsible for the overall supervision of the efficient operation of electrical and mechanical equipment such as airconditioning, plumbing, sanitation and building facilities; will ensure the maintenance of cleanliness and attractiveness of the common areas in accordance to company standards and will lead the maintenance personnel in the operations.

- male; not over 35 years old
- graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering
- with 2 years work experience in property management and building administration in the same capacity
- able to lead a group, prioritize work load and meet deadlines

Customer Service Manager/Supervisor

The ideal candidate will be responsible for planning, coordinating, controlling and directing customer service operations and functions in the assigned branch department.

- female; not over 35 years old
- graduate of any 4-year Business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in sales and marketing; able to carry out prompt and efficient customer service

Selling Manager / Supervisor

The successful candidate will be responsible for the planning, controlling and directing selling activities and personnel for the attainment of sales targets.

- male/female; not over 35 years old
- graduate of any 4-year Business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in retail operations, food chains or in sales in the same capacity
- ability to carry out prompt and efficient customer service

Counter & Checking Manager / Supervisor

The successful candidate will be responsible in cashiering operations, cash transactions and overall supervision of personnel in the department.

- female; not over 35 years old
- graduate of any 4-year Business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in bank operations or counter-cashier functions and familiar with credit card transactions

Warehouse Manager / Supervisor

The ideal candidate will be responsible for the assigned branch warehouse in terms of proper planning, controlling and directing operations/functions of a group

- male; not over 35 years old
- graduate of any 4-year Business course
- with extensive experience in all aspects of warehousing operations in a retail business
- ability to lead, motivate, and foster team work in the department

Customer Relations Service Manager

The successful candidate will be responsible for the planning, promulgation and implementation of the over-all security program of the Company.

- male/female; not over 35 years old
- male must be at least 5'5½" and female must be at least 5'2" in height; physically fit
- graduate of Criminology or any 4-year Business course
- with at least 1 year experience in handling security matters and personnel
- with basic knowledge in crisis management and human behavior
- with keen investigations skills; detail-oriented
- willing to be assigned in provincial branches and can work on extended hours

Branch Trainer

The ideal candidate will conduct and monitor training programs in the assigned branch; will evaluate and execute follow through measures for training programs conducted; will handle administrative tasks and program coordination for other training related activities.

- male/female; not over 32 years old
- graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year Business course
- with 2 years related work experience
- familiar with training needs analysis, designing, implementing and evaluating of training programs related to behavior and skill modification of employees
- with excellent written and oral communication skills
- with high level of computer literacy

Office Assistant

(Human Resources • Accounting • Treasury • Customer Service)

- female; not over 25 years old
- graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Communication Arts, Business Management, Accountancy, Computer Science or any 4-year Business course
- personable, fast learner and flexible to be scheduled in support of retail hours

Interested parties may apply personally from Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. at:

SM Mart, Inc.
SM Corporate Office, Bldg. D 1000 Bay Boulevard
SM Central Business Park, Bay City, Pasay City

www.sm-shoemart.com
Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

(Please bring comprehensive resumé, 2 pcs. 2x2 colored picture with white background, SSS Number / SSS Employment History print out, original and photocopy of Transcript of Records and Diploma)

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Singapore
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High quality applicants, with appropriate experience and qualifications, and excellent spoken English for:

COOK

Must have experience in western cooking and catering for large occasions (up to several hundred people) and an ability to maintain accurate financial records. Salary would depend on age, experience and ability, with a maximum Singapore $ equivalent of Pesos 70,000 per month.

BUTLER/GARDENER/HANDYMAN

Needs to have relevant previous experience and be educated to a good standard. Actual salary would depend on age, experience and ability with a maximum Singapore $ equivalent of Pesos 55,000 per month.

Both positions attract an additional bonus of two months' salary in December and an additional annual bonus based on performance. Generous holidays, free accommodation to a good standard, health care scheme and free passage from Manila to Singapore and return at end of contract are provided.

Deadline
Deadline for applications is 12 noon on Friday 14 July.

How to apply
To apply please submit, in an A4 sized envelope, a copy of your CV, contact telephone number, 2 x 2 photograph and a hand-written letter explaining your suitability for the position to:

HR Manager (Cook or Butler)
British Embassy
17/F LV Locsin Building
6752 Ayala Avenue
Makati City 1226
Metro Manila
Philippines

Applicants should be available for interview in Manila from 24 to 26 July.
References will be taken up and NBI clearances will be required before appointments are confirmed. Tentative start date for both positions is mid September.
Enquiries about these vacancies will not be entertained and only successful applicants will be notified.

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- Preferably a graduate of any business related course
- Male/Female; preferably single
- With pleasing personality & good interpersonal skills
- Must be determined & goal-driven
- With above average communication skills

ACCOUNT OFFICERS

- Preferably a graduate of Marketing or any business related course; with pleasing personality
- With excellent oral & written communication skills
- Male/Female; preferably single
- Computer literate; willing to do field work

NURSES

- A graduate of BS Nursing; licensed / unlicensed
- M/F; with pleasing personality

TRAINERS

- A graduate of any four year course preferably AB Comm. Arts, Marketing or any medical related course
- M/F; preferably single
- With at least 1 year work experience; with pleasing personality
- With very good written & communication skills
- Willing to do field work; computer literate

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANTS

- Graduate of any medical related course
- Preferably residents of Metro Manila & Southern Luzon
- Male / Female; preferably single
- Computer literate; willing to work on shifting schedules

HR OFFICER / SUPERVISOR

- Graduate of Bachelor's / College degree in Human Resource Management or its equivalent
- With adequate exposure in human resource management as an officer or supervisor
- Highly skilled in sourcing/interviewing applicants
- Proficient in MS Office
- Preferably single; with pleasing personality

Interested parties may submit their resumé, photocopied transcript of records, with 2x2 picture at:

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7th/F Feliza Bldg. V.A. Rufino St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
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Suite 407 4th Floor Linden Suites,
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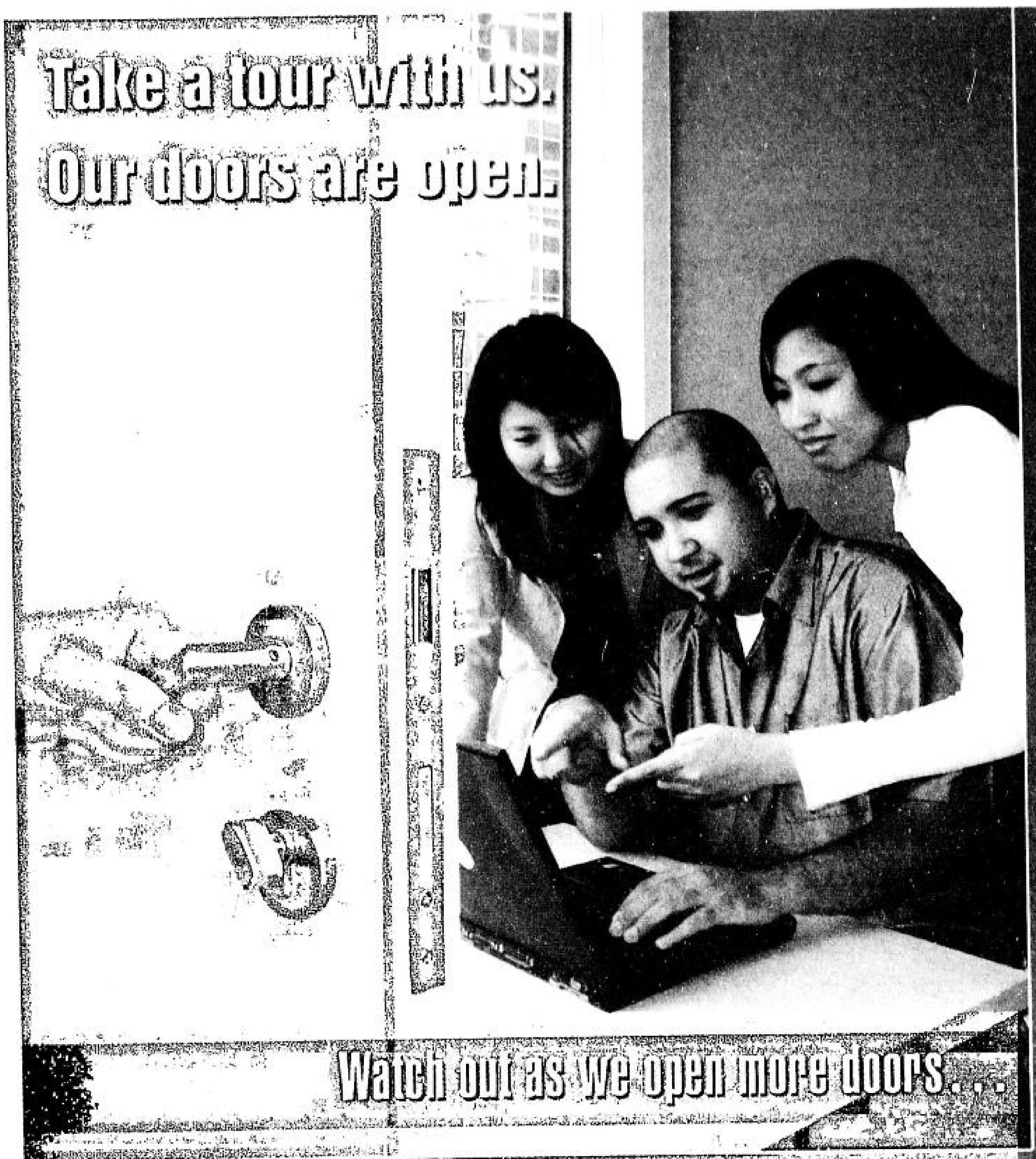
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(02) 857-7078

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- Preferably with Oracle 11i Applications background
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Bigfoot Entertainment Phils., Inc. thrives on taking new approaches in international film and television production; and cultivating global talent through film financing and education. The International Academy of Film and Television, Inc. cultivates filmmakers through hands-on immersion and workshop programs with mentors from Hollywood and other film capitals of the world. We are looking for people to fill in the following positions:

Producer for Reality TV Show

Shall drive the Executive Producer's concept from development thru distribution.

- Must have 5 to 7 years experience as a Producer with 3 years reality TV show background
- Having worked in an Asian environment is a plus
- Must possess at least a Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communication, Advertising or equivalent
- Has a keen eye for overall production elements and excellent budgetary control

Writer

Shall develop projects, generate show ideas, assist in casting, write show segments, write dialogue for hosts/presenters/on-air personalities, compose and edit scripts, prepare on-air commercial and promotional copy for the broadcast program.

- Has at least 2 to 4 years experience as a writer and/or producer of a reality TV show
- Must be familiar with the overall production process of a reality TV show
- Has strong writing skills and can communicate effectively thru writing
- Must possess at least a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism or equivalent

School Director - Film School

Shall create the environment and systems necessary to promote and support the success of the school's program.

- Candidate must possess a College Degree; Post Graduate Diploma, Master's Degree and/or Doctorate preferred but not required
- Experience in Media, Entertainment, Film
- Experience in the academe, in teaching or administrative capacity

Credit and Collection Manager

Shall help set up the structure, policies and procedures for the credit and collection group.

- At least 2 years experience in billing and collection in distribution (DVD, etc.)
- SAP knowledge an advantage
- Must possess at least a College/Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy, preferably CPA
- Has strong interpersonal skills and knows how to communicate with various levels in the organization

Executive Director for Marketing

Shall be responsible for the overall Marketing and communication of BF-E and all of its divisions.

- At least a College Degree in Business Management, Marketing, Communications, Media Studies or related arena. MBA is a plus but not required
- At least 7 years management experience in corporate marketing environment
- At least 2 years at Management level in a multiple facet company, specifically with some experience in entertainment, arts or digital technology arena
- Excellent project management skills and history

Marketing Communications Coordinator for Film School

To assist with the project management of the Company's printed and electronic publications, broadcasts and media relations.

- At least 2 years experience in public relations or marketing communications
- Regional experience in entertainment or media industry a plus
- Ability to develop, write, edit and produce effective communication pieces
- At least a College/Bachelor's Degree in Journalism, Public Relations, Marketing, or equivalent

Account Manager

Shall be responsible for the sales of the services and products of BF-E and specific divisions.

- At least 2 years at Management level in a multiple facet company, specifically with some experience in entertainment, arts or digital technology arena
- International/regional exposure coupled with the ability to work and interact across cultures
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, as well as public speaking skills
- Must possess at least a College/Bachelor's degree in Business Management/Marketing, Media Studies or related arena. MBA is a plus but not required

We are also pooling applicants for the following positions:

- Web Developers
- Video Editors
- Animators
- Foley Artists
- Sound Engineer
- IT Specialists

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FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

The country's leading Non-Bank Financial Intermediary Services industry is in need of a:

MARKETING ASSISTANT/ ARTIST

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Male or Female
- Single between 22 to 27 years of age
- Fine Arts Graduate or any related courses
- Knowledgeable in Adobe Photoshop and Corel Computer Application
- Must have at least 1 year experience in Graphic layout design
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, positive work attitude and good moral character
- Good in both oral and written communication in English

Applicants may please present themselves with detailed resumé, most recent ID picture, college diploma, transcript of records, NBI and Police clearance and most recent employer certificate.

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT DIVISION
2nd Floor, Unit 203 Heart Tower Condominium
108 Valero St, Salcedo Village
Makati City

WANTED

Sales Rep 21-28 years old, College graduate or college level, willing to do field work. Email resumé to info@fairbright.com or fax to 8927362.

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Accounting Major/Female/Single
Submit RESUMÉ & Credentials
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400 Tandang Sora Ave., Brgy. Culiat, Q.C.
Tel. No.: 931-3258/931-3678

Associate Computer Systems Analyst

Responsibilities

The position designs, supports and maintains the Comprehensive Loan Accounting and Services System (CLASS) involving medium to high-level technical complexity, either through the leadership of an independent project team or through participation in major systems development projects as principal member.

For more details about the position, please see http://www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp

Reporting Arrangement

The position reports to the Senior Collaborative and Web Technology Specialist, Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST).

Selection Criteria

Specific criteria include

- suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level.
- a Bachelor degree in MIS, Computer Science, Business Administration, Accounting, Engineering, or related areas.
- at least 5 years experience in programming using Oracle platform, of which 3 to 4 years are on applications related to accounting, banking and/or finance.
- proficiency in systems analysis and design, preparation of functional and detailed specifications design, and programming, testing and data analysis.
- proficiency in programming using standard SQL and PL/SQL.
- familiarity with data warehousing concept and reporting tools such as Oracle Discoverer or COGNOS Report Net.
- good knowledge of Oracle tools including JDeveloper, Application Object Library (AOL), and use of Oracle APIs.
- knowledge of Visual LANSA development platform, Java, HTML and XML will be a plus.
- good working knowledge in the system development/ implementation hardware/software platforms used in a multilateral institution.
- good oral and written communication skills, and ability to work well with others.
- good supervisory skills.
- a good working knowledge of software tools such as Lotus Notes and MS Office suite.

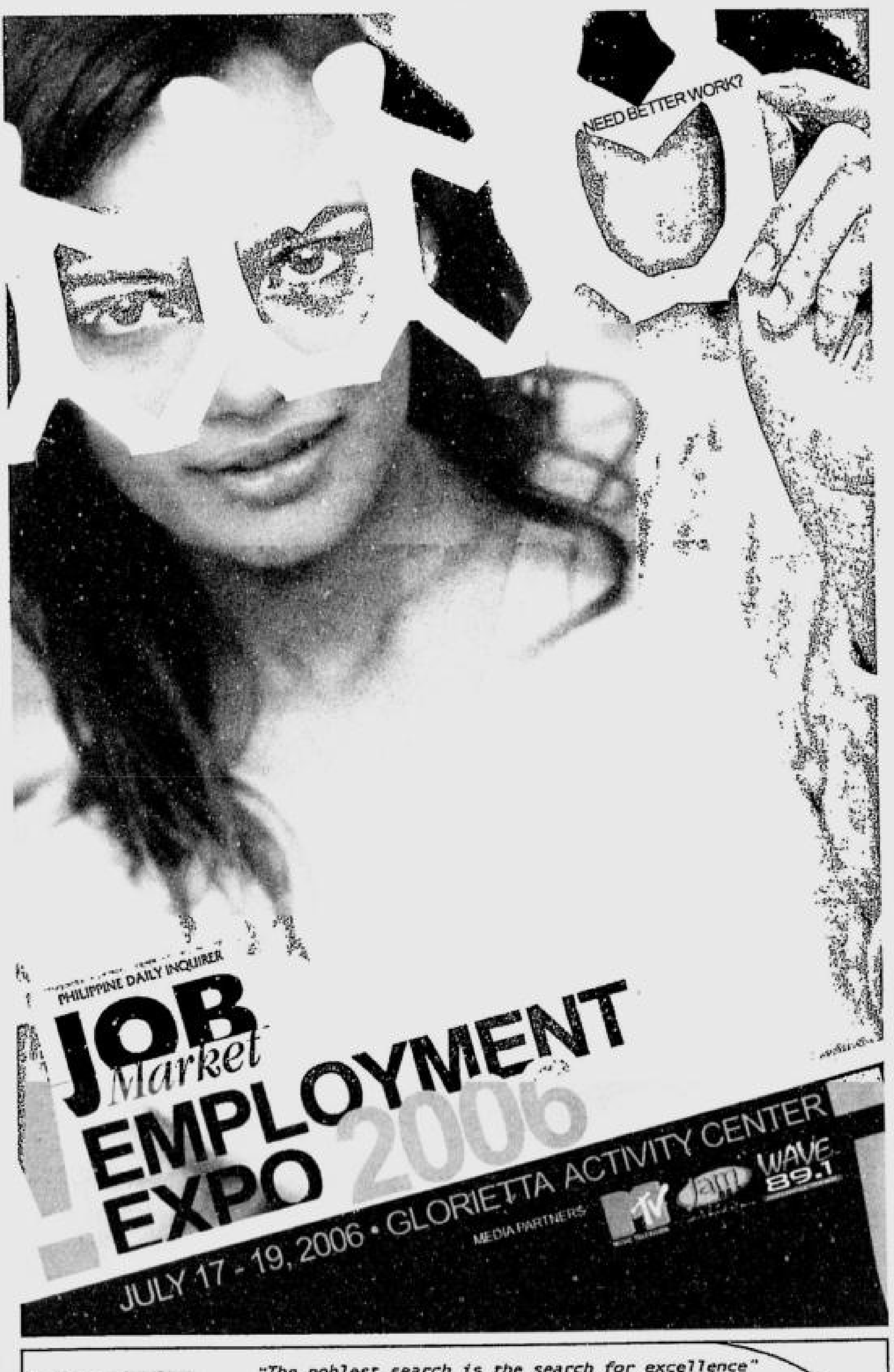
The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting **Ref. No. EXT-AS06-129(4)-OIST** and job **title** on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address: CS-jobs@adb.org by **14 July 2006**.

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

Asian Development Bank ADB

www.adb.org



PHINMA EDUCATION NETWORK

Is in need of:

BRAND/MARKETING MANAGER

Candidates must be/have:

- Male/Female, 35 to 45 years old
- MBA degree preferred (AIM, Ateneo, La Salle, UP)
- Must have 5 to 8 years experience in marketing or brand management in the consumer or telecom industry
- Sales experience is an advantage
- Preferably with experience in marketing educational services
- With good people skills
- Willing to travel and be stationed in the provinces from time to time

This position is for immediate hiring.

Interested applicants may submit their resume' and copy of transcript of records to:

PHINMA-HR, 12F Phinma Plaza,
#39 Plaza Drive, Rockwell Center, Makati City
E-mail: **hdpicson@phinma.com.ph**
Fax no. 870-0466

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JOB Market

PMAP seminars for July

THE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE Philippines is sponsoring a program entitled Managing the Training and Development Function which will be held on July 6-7. Registration fee is P5,750 for PMAP member and P7,250 for Non PMAP member. The program is an introductory module on how to effectively manage the training and development in an organization. It includes the basic principles and processes of training and development. It is designed for new training managers and for those who are newly assumed in the training function.

A three-day workshop on Competency Design and Development Workshop will be held on July 11-13. Registration fee is P7,850 for PMAP member and P9,400 for Non PMAP member. It is a Foundational module designed to prepare the Learners to draft their own specific competency framework plan that will eventually be the starting point of a customised competency framework in their organisations. Workshop approach will be used extensively with lecturettes to clarify certain points making use of the vast learning experiences of the Learners in the process.

The program entitled Managing the Rewards Management Function is scheduled on July 18. Registration fee is P3,500 for PMAP member and P5,000 for Non PMAP member. It is an introductory module that focuses on the basic principles and processes of rewards management, from planning, design, administration and communication.

All programs will be held at PMAP Center in Mandaluyong City. For reservations, please contact The Human Resource Management Development Center at telephone numbers 726-1581; 726-1588 or 726-1532; email address: mira.jakosalem@pmap.org.ph or you may visit the website: www.pmap.org.ph

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- Knowledge in AutoCAD is a plus

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- Electrician
- AC Technician
- Forklift Operator
- Batching Plant Operator
- Machine Installer
- Welder
- Boiler Operator / Technician
- Material Controller
- Loader Operator
- Rigger
- Plumber
- Reverse Osmosis Operator (R/O)
- Telephone Technician

Qualifications:
- Male not more than 32 years old
- Graduate of any related vocational course / College Level
- With minimum of six (6) months related experience

POWERPLANT STAFF
- Male not more than 35 years old
- Graduate of Mechanical / Electrical Engineering or Basic Seaman Course
- With or without license
- Must have a basic computer knowledge
- Willing to work long hours and night shift schedule

Experience in a day-to-day operation & maintenance of a power generator plant (checking of diesel engines, power generators and control panels) is an advantage

Interested applicants must bring bio-data / resumé with 2x2 picture, diploma, Transcript of record and SSS Employment History at:

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LOT 7, BLOCK 9, PHASE 1, PEZA, ROSARIO, CAVITE
Tel. No. (046) 437-1188 loc. 122
Look for Ms. Jessica L. Sore
E-mail: personnel02@hrd-s.com

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- Very good communication skills, both written & oral
- With knowledge of Power Point, Exel, Word, Photoshop
- Fresh Graduates are preferred but w/ strong extra curricular background

This is an entry level position reporting directly to the Marketing Director. Interested applicants may send their resumé addressed to the Marketing Director, 3rd Floor Gold Building, #15 Annapolis St., Greenhills San Juan, M.M.

Associate Computer Systems Analyst

Responsibilities
The position designs, develops, implements, supports and maintains Oracle eBusiness Suite applications involving medium to high-level technical complexity, either through leadership of an independent project team or through participation in major systems development projects as principal member.

For more details about the position, please see http://www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp

Reporting Arrangement
The position reports to the Information Systems and Technology Specialist for Enterprise Resource Planning, Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST).

Selection Criteria
Specific criteria include
- suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level.
- a Bachelor degree in MIS, Computer Science, Business Administration, Accounting, Engineering or related areas.
- at least 5 years experience in development and implementation of Oracle eBusiness Suite Applications, two years of which must be specific experience in Financial Applications (FinApps) modules; preferably with detailed technical experience on two or more of the Oracle products including Account Receivable (AR), Accounts Payable (AP), Purchasing, Assets, General Ledger (GL); and one year of which must be in team leadership for application systems development/implementation projects.
- proficiency in systems analysis and design, preparation of functional and detailed specifications design, and programming and data analysis.
- proficiency in delivery (write or execute) of SQL and PL/SQL.
- good knowledge of Oracle tools including Self Service, Oracle Workflow, JDeveloper, Application Object Library (AOL), and use of Oracle APIs.
- knowledge of Java, XML and Oracle Metalink TAR process.
- good working knowledge in the system development/implementation hardware/software platforms used in multilateral organizations.
- good oral and written communication skills, and ability to work well with others.
- good project management and supervisory skills.
- experience of frontline support of Oracle ERP, ideally for FinApps modules.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting **Ref. No. EXT-AS06-111(4)-OIST** and job title on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address: CS-jobs@adb.org by **14 July 2006.**

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

Asian Development Bank ADB

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An aggressive and market sensitive Diagnostic Organization is looking for a **Medical Technologist** to work as **Laboratory Specialist.**

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- Female, 22 years old and above
- LICENSED, at least with 1 year experience
- Flexible and can relate well to others
- Can handle confidential matters

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- Male / Female, 22-30 y/o, graduate of any technical or engineering course
- Preferably with experience in die bond, wire bond, and other clean room machines
- Must possess a good interpersonal, analytical and theoretical skills

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumé at the above address, or fax it at 046-4370377 • 9714130, and/or email it at r_dizon@fujimoto.com.ph

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B&M Global Services Manila

An international law firm with more than 60 offices in 38 countries and a robust Intellectual Property Law practice demands the expertise of legal professionals in its Manila-based support team. Our dynamic organization seeks to hire for the following positions to support the Global Intellectual Property Practice Group of the Firm:

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWYER

We are in search of a lawyer with at least 1 year of legal practice with a firm or the equivalent work experience acquired within a corporate/commercial or regulatory/judicial/public sector environment, who has directly and effectively conducted or managed Intellectual Property Law work, with knowledge and a deep interest in various IP issues and matters, including registration, prosecution, enforcement, transfer, licensing and others.

The successful candidate will assume the post of **Professional Support Lawyer I (PSL)** and be part of a growing professional legal support team based in Manila. The PSL will report to and work with our Global Knowledge Officer for the IP group, as well as coordinate with IP practitioners worldwide for know-how projects and knowledge management initiatives such as work product collection, multi-country surveys on IP protection, legal development reports and training support.

The ideal candidate must also possess the following:

- Excellent academic credentials from a reputable law school;
- Strong legal research and report writing skills;
- Ability to initiate and maintain appropriate work systems, attention to detail, and effective time management;
- Ability to work productively within virtual communities, functioning independently as needed, but also capable of developing good relationships with other team members, local offices and support groups;
- Outstanding oral and written English communication skills; and IT literacy.

Experience in collaborating with foreign correspondent firms and with multinational clients for IP-related matters is an advantage. We offer a competitive compensation package, with opportunity for travel and professional development.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PARALEGAL

We are looking for an IP paralegal with experience and high-quality track record in handling the entire process of IP rights registration, particularly for trademarks and/or patents, acquired in a law firm or commercial setting. The successful candidate will serve as **Practice Group Support Paralegal** for the Global IP Practice Group and report to the Director for Global IP Projects and to the Global Knowledge Officer. They will be primarily responsible for updating and maintaining the rules that operate a centralized IP rights database and platform used by the Firm and its clients.

The ideal candidate must also possess the following:

- Bachelor's degree in a four or five-year course, preferably in any of the following fields: Computer Science or related sciences, Legal Management, Business Administration or Economics;
- Very good English written and oral communication skills;
- High level of keyboard skills and IT literacy; and
- A keen eye for detail, ability to work independently and as part of a team, and ability to comply with deadlines and to manage time well.

Applicants with experience and skills in IP database entry and maintenance, use of fault logging database, classification/indexing, legal research, report writing and analysis are preferred. We offer a competitive compensation package, with opportunity for training and development.

Qualified applicants may submit their cover letter, resume, 2x2 picture and other credentials to bmgsm.hr@bakernet.com.

B&M Global Services Manila, Inc., is a subsidiary of Baker & McKenzie International B.V., a support services provider to Baker & McKenzie International, a Swiss Verein of member law firms around the world. Neither B&M Global Services Manila, Inc., nor Baker & McKenzie International B.V., is engaged in the practice of law.

Republic of the Philippines
Career Executive Service Board
#3 Marcelino St., Holy Spirit Drive, Quezon City

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Career Executive Service Board is inviting interested Career Executive Service Officers (CESOs) to apply for the position of the

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director is primarily responsible for the development and implementation of the policies, rules, regulations, programs and projects relative to the governance of Career Executive Service or the CES.

Applicants must submit the following: (1) Application letter; (2) Personal Data Sheet; and (3) Picture (2x2) to:

Job Post: **Executive Director**
Career Executive Service Board
#3 Marcelino Street, Holy Spirit Drive
Isidora Hills Subdivision, Diliman, 1127
Quezon City
Telephone nos. 951-4981; 931-5732

Applications must be submitted not later than **10 July 2006**.

(Sgd.) **ARTURO M. LACHICA**
OIC-Executive Director

ACCOUNTANT

For Immediate Hiring

Requirements:

- * Passed the CPA Board Exam.
- * At least 2 year(s) or working Experience in the related field is required for this position.
- * Required skill(s): computer literate.
- * Preferably 1-4 yrs experienced employee specializing in Finance General Accounting.
- * Preferably not more than 35 years old.

Responsibilities:

- * knowledgeable in financial statement preparation & analysis/computer literate.
- * knowledgeable in government required remittances & renewals.
- * good communication and inter-personal skills.

The company's accountant will report directly to the president. She will be required to prepare reports vital to management decisions

Contact person: Ms. Belinda
Ortigas Center, Pasig City • 636-6327 to 29

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A Member of the Voluntary Service Overseas or VSO Federation, an international organization that works through volunteers, is currently looking for a

PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & FUND RAISING OFFICER

(Job Code: PDFRO)

The post will be responsible for generating funding support for sending Filipino VSO volunteers overseas and for the implementation of national volunteering and other innovative programmes of VSO Bahaginan. The PDFRO will also be developing long-term partnerships with institutional and individual donors.

The goals of the position include developing VSO Bahaginan's long-term fund raising operational plan, diversifying funding sources, building a donor database and achieving financial results. Candidates must have successful experience in fund raising and partnership development, and the ability to work as part of VSO's international fund raising team.

Application Closes: **30 July 2006**
Interview Date: **8 August 2006**
Position Starts: **as soon as possible**

Interested applicants should access a job pack from the VSO Bahaginan website at **www.vsobahaginan.org.ph**. The website includes the VSO Staff Application Form and the complete job description. CVs will not be accepted as applications. Please send accomplished form and specify the **Job Code (PDFRO)** to: **The Director at bahaginan@vsoint.org**

VSO Bahaginan is an equal opportunity employer. Because of our limited resources, **only shortlisted candidates will be notified.**

We are the leading company in our service-oriented industry. We are looking for hardworking individuals who share our commitment to quality and professionalism for the following vacancies:

RECEPTIONIST/ADMIN. ASSISTANT

We seek a personable young lady, between 24-28 years of age, with excellent spoken and written English communication skills, a college graduate, about 2 years secretarial experience and at ease in dealing with foreigners. With good/clear voice quality and diction, excellent phone skills and phone etiquette. A warm and pleasing manner and dedication to professional secretarial work are important personality requirements.

ACCOUNTANT

Applicant must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Accounting and a Certified Public Accountant, Male or Female, between 25-35 years of age with 4 years of working experience, with high level of computer literacy, personable and at ease in dealing with expatriates, excellent spoken and written English communication skills.

IT SUPPORT/MAINTENANCE

Applicant must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Computer Science/Information Technology, personable and at ease in dealing with expatriates, excellent spoken and written English communication skills, knowledgeable in Windows Operating System and troubleshooting, proficient in Microsoft Office products: Linux, SQL, Java

Qualified applicants are requested to send their comprehensive resume with photo **by email** to jane.biene@asiantigers-philippines.com or **post** to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT.
ASIAN TIGERS LANE MOVING & STORAGE
N4 JY & Sons Compound, Veterans Complex, 1631 Taguig

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- Be highly skilled in Adobe Acrobat, Quark Express or other desktop publishing software packages
- Had exposure to data production or computerized newspaper operation
- Have a good working knowledge of XML
- Excellent comprehension and English writing skills and a high level of attention to detail
- Able to work on a variable shift schedule including weekends and holidays
- Able to meet tight production deadlines
- Graduate of any four- or five-year course
- Previous experience working for a multinational company

Qualified applicants should post their detailed resume, cover letter and most recent photograph not later than Friday, July 7, 2006, to **The HR & Administration Manager** at the following address:

Financial Times Electronic Publishing Philippines Inc.
42nd Floor, Philamlife Tower,
8767 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

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Please attach a photocopy of any one of the following identification cards (please check)

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A reputable electronics company based in Clark Special Economic Zone has an opening for two positions with the following qualifications:

FINANCE MANAGER

1) at least 5 years experience in a financial management position;
2) expertise in accounting (CPA preferred);
3) budgeting, revenue/cost/expense analysis;
4) cash flow management;
5) 30-50 years of age;
6) basic understanding of IT and office automation;
7) willing to work in Clark

In addition to his/her duties as Finance Manager, candidate may be given additional responsibilities in the fields of human relations and purchasing.

INTERNAL AUDITOR

1) at least 3 years experience in internal audit position
2) CPA preferred
3) 25-35 years of age
4) willing to work in Clark

Salary will be commensurate to experience and potential. Interested parties may e-mail or fax their bio-data, photograph and a short letter attention to The President to **megatln@yahoo.com** or **712-2581.**

All applications will be treated confidentially.

URGENT

PROGRAM INFORMATION OFFICER

Qualifications: A graduate of a business course or nursing course from a reputable school; with excellent communication skills both in oral and written English; with extensive experience in marketing; with strong background in networking with schools, hospitals and healthcare organizations; Proficient technology skills using MS Office; highly organized, result-oriented and flexible; medical representatives are welcome to apply.

NURSE EDUCATOR

Qualifications: graduate of BSN; with excellent communication skills both in oral and written English; with good interpersonal skills; can work under pressure; highly organized, result-oriented, committed and flexible; with experience working in a review center, giving lectures/review/tests and preparing applicants for the NCLEX; **MUST BE an NCLEX passer.**

Applicants may bring or mail their resumé and transcript to:
Unit 1803 Taipan Place, Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Previous applicants need not apply.

World's leading mining services company has the following immediate vacancies for the Philippine operations with plants in Bataan, Negros and on major mine sites nationwide employing approximately 500 people and continuously growing:

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Administrator

Mechanical Engineer

Applicant must have a proven track record of performance, a professional starter, delivers result and comfortable working in a multinational organisation.

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Country Manager
7F Guada Building
No. 31 EDSA Mandaluyong City
Facsimile no.: 632 5332249
Email address: c/o cristine.baulos@orica.com

Assistant Computer Systems Analyst

Responsibilities

The position develops, implements, supports and maintains extension to the Comprehensive Loan Accounting and Services System (CLASS) involving medium technical complexity, either through the leadership of an independent project team or through participation in major systems development projects as a member.

For more details about the position, please see http://www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp

Reporting Arrangement

The position reports to the Senior Collaborative and Web Technology Specialist, Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST).

Selection Criteria

Specific criteria include

- suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level.
- a Bachelor degree in MIS, Computer Science, Business Administration, Accounting, Engineering, or related areas.
- at least 5 years experience in programming using Oracle platform, of which 2-3 years are on applications related to accounting, banking and/or finance.
- experience in systems analysis and design, and preparation of functional and detailed specifications design; proficiency in programming and testing.
- proficiency in programming using standard SQL and PL/SQL.
- familiarity with data warehousing concept and reporting tools such as Oracle Discoverer or COGNOS Report Net.
- good knowledge of Oracle tools including JDeveloper, Application Object Library (AOL), and use of Oracle APIs.
- knowledge of Visual LANSA development platform will be a plus.
- good working knowledge in the system development/implementation hardware/software platforms used in a multilateral institution.
- good oral and written communication skills, and ability to work well with others.
- a good working knowledge of software tools such as Lotus Notes and MS Office suite.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting **Ref. No. EXT-AS06-130(4)-OIST** and job title on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address: CS-jobs@adb.org by **14 July 2006**.

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

www.adb.org

Asian Development Bank ADB

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Paramount Life & General Insurance Corporation, one of the leading insurance companies in the market today with an extensive nationwide sales and marketing network and operating with a Composite License to engage in both life and non-life insurance, is looking for highly competent and team-oriented individuals to fill in the following positions:

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Qualifications:

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- With excellent communication and team working skills
- Experience in the paint and wood finishing industry preferred
- Driving skills an advantage

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Qualifications:

- Male, not more than 35 years of age
- Graduate of a Technical Course preferred
- Experience in the paint and wood finishing industry preferred
- Highly flexible and adaptable to different working environments
- Driving skills an advantage

We offer higher than industry rate compensation package to the successful candidates. For interested applicants, please send your resume with 2x2 photos and transcript of records by post or e-mail to the following contact details:

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Manggahan, Pasig City 1611

Attention : The Recruitment Manager
E-Mail : admin@syntema-manila.com

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- Strong supervisory/managerial skills; strong service-orientation
- Preferably with experience in ISO Accreditation

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS

- Registered Medical Technologist
- At least 1 -2 years experience as RMT in a tertiary laboratory set-up (Experience with PCR is an advantage)
- Ability to work independently with minimum supervision

CLIENT SERVICE PERSONNEL

- Graduate of B.S. Medical Technology,
- Non-Registered Med. Tech. may apply
- Excellent communication skills (English/Pilipino)
- Service oriented and able to work independently
- Must be computer literate

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- Graduate of B.S. Accountancy
- 1-2 years experience in General Accounting
- Knowledge in QuickBooks Accounting system preferred
- Female, 22 28 years old

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Suite LG-5 Richville Corporate Tower, Madrigal Business Park,
Ayala-Alabang, Muntinlupa City, Philippines
Tel Nos.: 850-6288, 850-6289: Fax: 850-6287:
E-mail: abclabs_mktg@skyinet.net

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E-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph.

Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Indispensable assistant longs for career growth

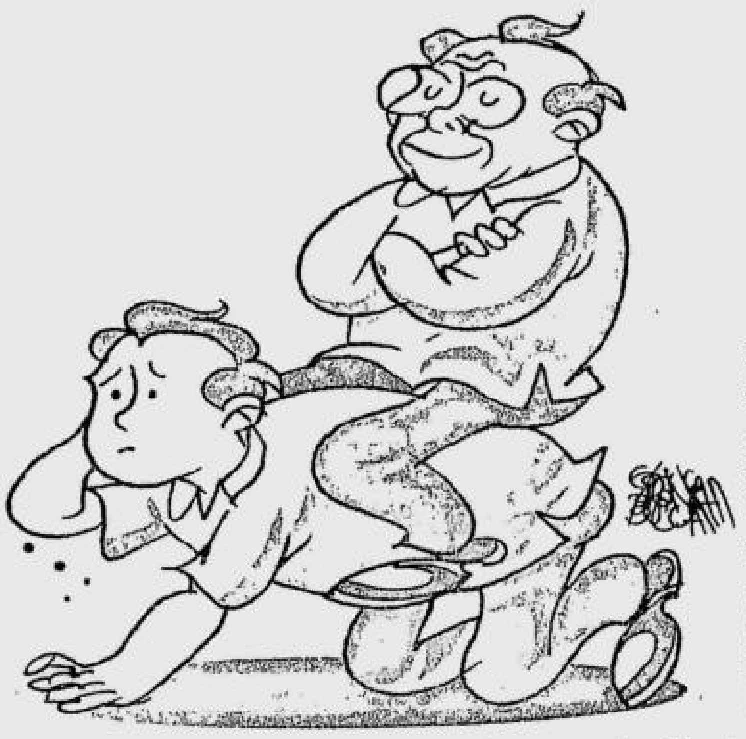


ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

I'VE BECOME SO GOOD IN whatever my boss wants me to do and in anticipating his every need—official or personal—that he has become very dependent on me. He refers to me as his "Boy Friday" and his "alter ego." He takes me with him in all meetings he attends and has given me the freedom even to make decisions for him, so confident is he in my competence and my loyalty to him.

So what's my problem, you probably ask? My boss, who has been my mentor and father figure, does not show any interest in knowing my own career interest, my dreams and aspirations. He thinks he knows my needs and assumes that working for and under him is what I want. Once I told him there was an opening in the MIS department in our company since I am an ECE graduate with high honors from a reputable school. He merely brushed aside what I said, and told me "Just stick to me and I'll take care of you."

The problem is, while I'm taking care of his needs, he doesn't take care of my own needs for professional growth and career advancement. He doesn't see me in any other role but as his executive assistant and his aide. So long as I stay in the company, he wants me to be always by his side. Even other department heads do not see me beyond my current role. Mr. Y, head of our MIS department told me, when I applied for a vacant position that I liked, "I'm sorry I cannot take you though I know you will be an asset in my department. Mr. X, your boss and who is my friend and peer, will harbor a grudge against me and I don't want to destroy my relationship with him."

I'm now 33 yrs old, married for five years and with two young children. If I don't do something about my career now, it'll be too late for me to achieve my career goal. What shall I do? Please help me.

Mr. Executive Assistant

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Josie O. Santamaria

That you are frustrated and unhappy is very obvious from your letter. You are sure that you want to move out from under your boss' wings and flap your own under the clear blue sky but you feel incapable of leaving your boss without feeling guilty and disloyal. He trusts you fully and believes in you but he wants you to stick to and by him. To continue to work with, under and for him, will mean setting aside your career interests and sacrificing your own goals and aspirations. At 33, you have made a decision but you must firmly pursue it.

Allow me to suggest to you the following steps you might consider taking. The first step is to define your career goal. Like any goal, your career goal must be S (specific), M (measurable), A (attainable), R (relevant) and T (time-bound). From your letter, it seems that your career goal could be stated thus: By end of July 2006, I am occupying the position of (position) in the MIS department of our company. To enable you to achieve this goal requires the following intermediate and immediate goals:

- Obtain a positive response from your boss to recommend you to the head of the MIS department; and
- Obtain acceptance of me by the head of the MIS department.

To achieve the above immediate goals requires the following actions:

1. Make sure there is a vacancy in the MIS department and that you like the nature of the work, and the career path it will lead you to.

2. Talk to your boss. Before you do this, prepare what you will say to him. I always believe in writing a script of what we will say so that we can choose our words and edit, as needed. This will also give you self-confidence and focus when you talk to him. Let me provide you with this structure in writing your script.

First: Express appreciation and gratitude: "Sir, I deeply appreciate your trust and confidence in me and that you believe in me. I will always be grateful for the way you have mentored me, and for seeing my potentials and developing me to have the knowledge and skills I now have."

Second: Express your need: "However, Sir, I also want to grow and advance in my career in the ICT profession which is my career choice. I am already 33 years old and I want to pursue my career interest before age becomes an obstacle to my career change. What I really like is to work in our MIS department because my career choice is in ICT. This is the reason why I took ECE in college 14 years ago. However, Mr. Y, though he sees me as being well-qualified and having great potentials, does not want to get me because he values your relationship."

Third: Ask for what you want: "I'm sure you want me to be happy and fulfilled in the career I like. May I ask you to recommend me to him? I will be very happy if you do ..."

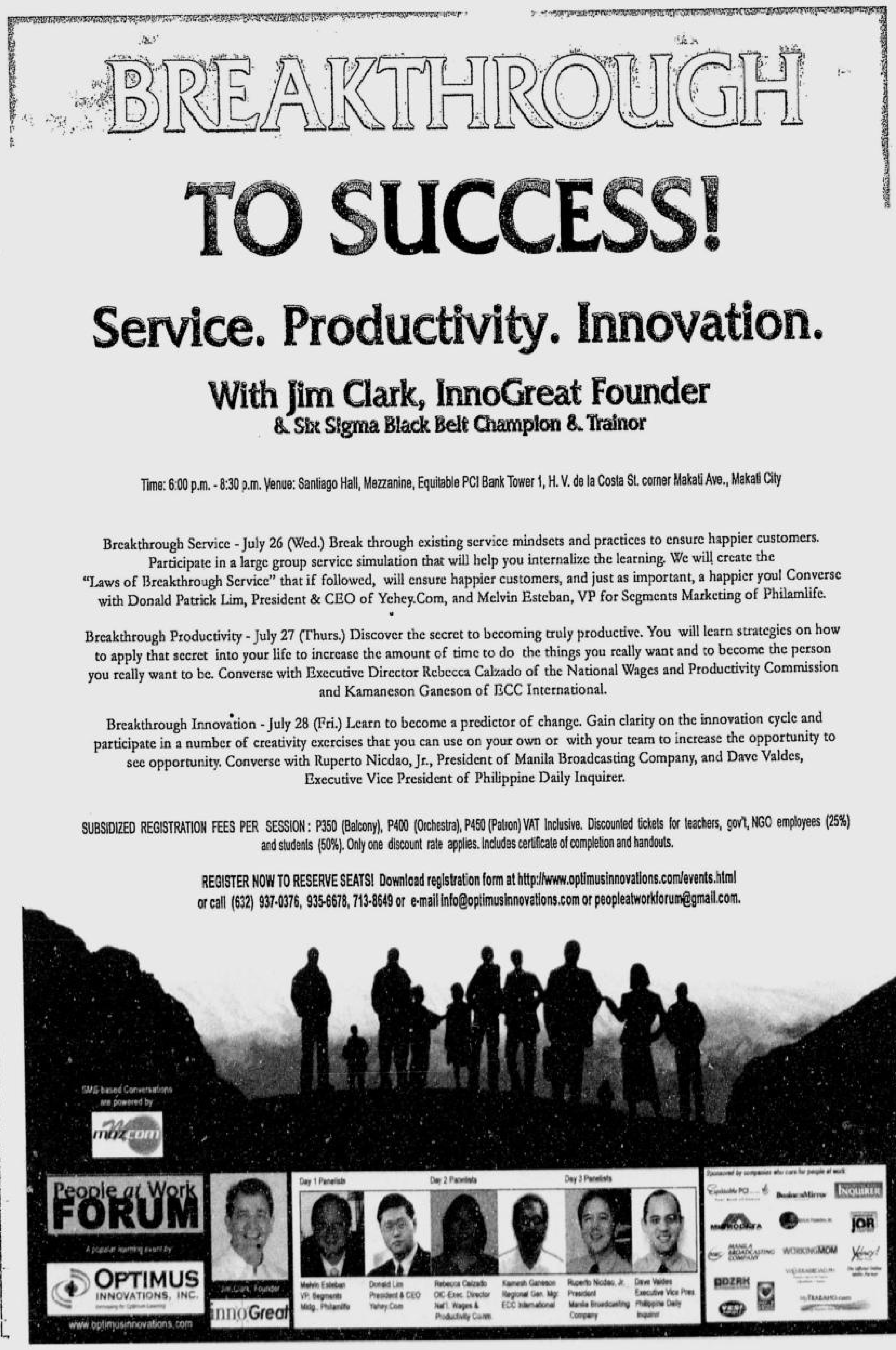
3.Psyche yourself. Repeat to yourself the following self-affirmation: "I know what I want and I will get it. God gives me the grace to enable me to express my desire to my boss. My boss will listen to me, sees my need and say "Yes" when I ask him to recommend me to Mr. Y." Remove your doubts and fears. Be focused.

4.Ask for an appointment to see your boss. Since you are the one arranging and making his schedules, you know his free day and time. You also know his "best" time.

5.Keep the appointment and have someone in the office guard off any distractions such as telephone calls, drop in visitors, etc.

6.Deliver your script. Sit across the table of your boss and look at him directly in the eye. Be focused on your goal. Do not allow him to distract you from your goal. If he does, just listen and steer the conversation back to your goal. God bless you.

(Ms Santamaria has a Ph.D in psychology and is a practicing psychologist, counselor, management consultant, executive coach and mentor. She has written the following books "Career Counseling: Cases and Techniques," "Life/Career Planning Workbook," "Managing Work and Career," and "Managing Your Career To The Top," all of them available at leading bookstores. Visit the website of her company, Career Systems Inc., at www.careersystems.com.ph *to know what articles might interest you.)*



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Breakthrough Service - July 26 (Wed.) Break through existing service mindsets and practices to ensure happier customers. Participate in a large group service simulation that will help you internalize the learning. We will create the "Laws of Breakthrough Service" that if followed, will ensure happier customers, and just as important, a happier you! Converse with Donald Patrick Lim, President & CEO of Yehey.Com, and Melvin Esteban, VP for Segments Marketing of Philamlife.

Breakthrough Productivity - July 27 (Thurs.) Discover the secret to becoming truly productive. You will learn strategies on how to apply that secret into your life to increase the amount of time to do the things you really want and to become the person you really want to be. Converse with Executive Director Rebecca Calzado of the National Wages and Productivity Commission and Kamaneson Ganeson of ECC International.

Breakthrough Innovation - July 28 (Fri.) Learn to become a predictor of change. Gain clarity on the innovation cycle and participate in a number of creativity exercises that you can use on your own or with your team to increase the opportunity to see opportunity. Converse with Ruperto Nicdao, Jr., President of Manila Broadcasting Company, and Dave Valdes, Executive Vice President of Philippine Daily Inquirer.

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'Should I ask for separation pay?'

By Tita Datu Puangco

Advice FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

I WOULD LIKE to seek your advice. I opted to leave a company with a heavy heart after 20 years of dedicated service and an unblemished record of performance.

The company is a family-owned medium-sized RTW corporation with only one of the second-generation children taking the helm of running the business from the parents. The company posted some impressive growth in its earlier years in the '80s and '90s, but failed miserably to sustain it after the Asian crisis. Good economy and less competition helped the company grow, but when crisis struck and subsequently on other entrants came in, the company lost out.

I rose from the ranks until I took a key managerial position, one that I held up to the day I left. Over the years, more responsibilities were given to me and that brought me to working closely with the father who started to intervene once again in the business.

The father seemed to have given me his full trust. I tried to consistently play my role in contributing inputs to help the company and be a team worker. But it was the son who ran the company.

There were many reasons why I left the company: obviously, the company itself and my own stagnating career. The company has a minimum retirement plan, mandated by law for those aged 60 with at least 10 years of service; and nothing more than that. However, I have first-hand knowledge, that at times management gives discretionary separation pay amounts to key people who resign.

I resigned 11 months ago, and until now I have not heard anything about any amount that is due me, so much unlike some lower-ranked managers who resigned before me. My question is—is it appropriate and decent for me to write a courteous letter asking about this "separation pay?" They have not given me my clearance papers until now, and again, let me reiterate that I have no blemished record in my performance nor do I have any accountability to the company.

If I may do the letter, can I address it to the father, feeling that the father would have more empathy in handling matters like this? Please help me clear my thoughts because knowing that my 20 years of productive service to the company was not compensated fairly, not getting any separation pay compared to my predecessors is like adding insult to injury.

Mr. Treated Unfairly

You feel aggrieved for resigning and not getting anything for your 20 years of unblemished service. The question you posed is whether to ask or not to ask for some kind of "separation pay" since you are not yet 60 years of age when you resigned. And then the other question you asked is to whom to write your appeal to the father or the son?

I think you should write a letter of appeal, the sooner the better. Only good can come from the letter you will write. It will remove all doubts as to whether your former bosses will reply to your appeal. If they answer in the positive, then you get some separation pay. If they reply in the negative then you can explore other courses of action.

Now as to your dilemma to whom to address your appeal, I suggest you address your letter to the son who is managing the company and furnish a copy to the father. In this way, you follow the protocol and at the same time hope that the father can influence the appeal positively.

Let me join you in prayer that your appeal will get positive results.

By the way, I want to apologize to our readers who have written since two years ago and still have not seen the response to their requests. I have decided to address them through my personal blog www.pinoyatwork.livejournal.com. I will try to answer a letter a day till I get to cover all your letters.

(Ms Puangco is CEO of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting, a training and consulting company specializing in strategic management, leading change, human resource systems, leadership and enterprise training. For your letters and feedback, e-mail advice@ancillaedc.com.ph *or fax 892-2902. You may also check Ms Puangco's blog at* www.pinoyatwork.livejournal.com. *For other inquiries, please call 892-2895, 892-2896 or 892-2898.)*

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

To facilitate the implementation of the Learning and Dissemination of Lessons Component of the Japan Social Development Fund Social Inclusion Project (JSDF-SIP), the National Project Management Office (NPMO) shall engage the services of an **Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and Advocacy Specialist.**

Scope of Work/ Responsibilities and Tasks:

1. Serve as lead implementer of Component D (Learning and Dissemination of Lessons) of the Social Inclusion Project;
2. Develop and implement the Project IEC and Advocacy Plan, congruent and complementary to the KALAHI-CIDSS and DSWD Social Marketing Plan;
3. Conduct mainstreaming coordination and advocacy activities with relevant national agencies, local government units, civil society organizations and project communities;
4. In coordination with the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Specialist, provide technical assistance in the implementation of the following activities:
   a. Identification, packaging and dissemination of key Project lessons and best practices based on project activities and reports;
   b. Development of a Process Documentation mechanism for key Project processes (Proposal Implementation, Capacity-building, Institutionalization and Mainstreaming, etc.), including the review and consolidation of Process Documentation outputs;
   c. Conduct of regular reflection sessions with learning networks (municipal level), and quarterly regional Process Evaluation workshops; and
   d. Conduct of annual learning conference with stakeholders to synthesize findings and summarize key lessons.
5. In coordination with the Community Development (CD) Specialist, provide technical assistance in the implementation of the following activities:
   a. Development and implementation of the Project Institutionalization and Mainstreaming Plan, congruent to the KALAHI-CIDSS Institutionalization Plan;
   b. Strengthening of BABAE Teams as policy advocacy structures for community participation;
   c. Institutionalization of Project innovations and other participation policies in target LGUs;
   d. Packaging, production and dissemination of innovative training modules;
   e. Provision of technical assistance in the conduct of trainings related to IEC and Advocacy for implementers and project communities.
6. Develop IEC materials and undertake IEC activities as required by the Project;
7. Maintain a databank of Project lessons, process documentation and photo documentation;
8. Conceptualize, develop and update the SIP webpage in the KALAHI-CIDSS website.

Individuals that have the following qualifications may submit Expressions of Interest:

1. Bachelor's degree in Development Communication, Mass Communication or Social Sciences, preferably with Master's Degree in a related field;
2. At least five (5) years of progressive experience in Information, Education and Communicating (IEC) or Social Marketing;
3. Proficiency in various desktop publishing, graphic design and web applications such as Adobe Pagemaker, Photoshop and InDesign;
4. Excellent writing, editing and speaking skills in English and Filipino;
5. Professional exposure to development-oriented projects of international funding institutions, government agencies or non-government organizations.

Interested Applicants may submit a written **Expression of Interest, Curriculum Vitae, at least two (2) sample written works, and References to the Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat** at 2nd floor, DSWD, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City with telephone number 931-8101/ 951-71-16 (Fax), e-mail: bacsec@dswd.gov.ph; dswdbacsec@yahoo.com, until **July 14, 2006 at 5:00 PM.**

(Sgd.) **FLORITA R. VILLAR**
Assistance Secretary and Chairperson, BAC

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- Team player, but at the same time able to work independently
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- Can speak and write in English and Filipino
- Computer literate

Senior Sales are welcome.

For qualified applicants, please submit comprehensive resumé with color picture to:

Highmark International Mktg. Corp.
Unit N, 2/F Magnitude Building
186 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., LIBIS, Quezon City
Tel. No.: 6365045
Or email resumé to highmarkimc@yahoo.com

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- female/male between 21 to 25 years old

Interested applicants are requested to submit their resumé with recent 2x2 photo and other related documents to:

45-B Philand Drive, Brgy. Pasong Tamo,
Tandang Sora, Q.C. 1116
Tel#: 951-4130 to 32

Or thru: **juicysmile88@yahoo.com**

WANTED

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- Graduate, preferably in Marketing; Food Technologist, may be useful
- With 3 years experience in sales and costing in food industry
- Good communication skills; computer literate

ACCOUNTING CLERK

- Graduate in Accountancy
- With 3 years experience in inventory and costing
- Computer literate; good communication skills

Submit application with I.D. picture to:

Box QC 2006-45
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Ground Floor, St. Anthony's Building
891 Aurora Blvd. cor. Oxford St., Cubao, Quezon City

Philippine Business Registry

DEPARTMENT OF
TRADE & INDUSTRY
PHILIPPINES

The **Philippine Business Registry** is envisioned to be a web-based portal, which will provide a seamless transactional environment for business registration and facilitation, initially to various business registration and monitoring application systems.

It shall serve as a repository database for the profile of all business entities (sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, profit and non-profit organizations). It will contain entity-based data and will serve as a knowledge management base for various statistical and analytical report generation requirements. It will evolve into a business facilitation platform that is envisioned to increase commercial activities within and outside the country.

The Department of Trade and Industry

is in need of:

Positions	Education	Experience/Special Skills
1. **Project Manager**	IT or Math-related courses such as • BS Computer Science • BS Statistics • BS Mathematics	• Managed at least 1 IT project with at least 4 teams • 5 years experience in Systems Development • Preferably familiar with government systems and operations • Good management control, planning, risk analysis, resource/people management skills
2. **(5) Project Specialists**	IT or Math-related courses such as • BS Computer Science • BS Statistics • BS Mathematics	• 3 years experience in Systems Development Methodology and Implementation • Good people management skills
	Mass Communication, Journalism, Communication Arts, Business Administration, Information Technology graduate or any related fields	• Working knowledge on ICT, business/corporate concepts, and printing press operations • Excellent oral & written communication skills • Well-established press & media relations, preferably in the business and IT sections • Knowledgeable on computer programs like Word, PowerPoint, Excel, PageMaker, and Photoshop • Can work under pressure and minimum supervision
3. **Document Specialist**	Business or IT-related courses such as • BS Computer Science • BS Business Administration	• 2 years experience in project documentation • Excellent computer skills • Meticulous/Attentive to details
4. **(2) Network Engineers**	• BS Computer Engineering • BS Electronics and Communication Engineering	• 2 years experience in network and systems administration
5. **(2) Computer Maintenance Technologists**	• BS Information Technology or related 4-year IT course	• 1 year experience in computer repair, maintenance, and network cabling
6. **Administrative Officer**	• BS Accountancy, Business Administration, Finance	• 2 years experience in performing a variety of administrative support • Preferably familiar with government accounting procedures
7. **Clerk**	• Business Related Courses	• Frontline Servicing
8. **Messenger**	• At least high school graduate	• Frontline Servicing

Please send/
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Human Resource
Development Service
Department of Trade
and Industry
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Avenue, Makati City,
Philippines

e-mail:
hrds@dti.gov.ph
on or before
7 July 2006

Qualified applicants will undergo assessment process.

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Qualification Standards required:

Education: *Bachelor's Degree relevant to the job*

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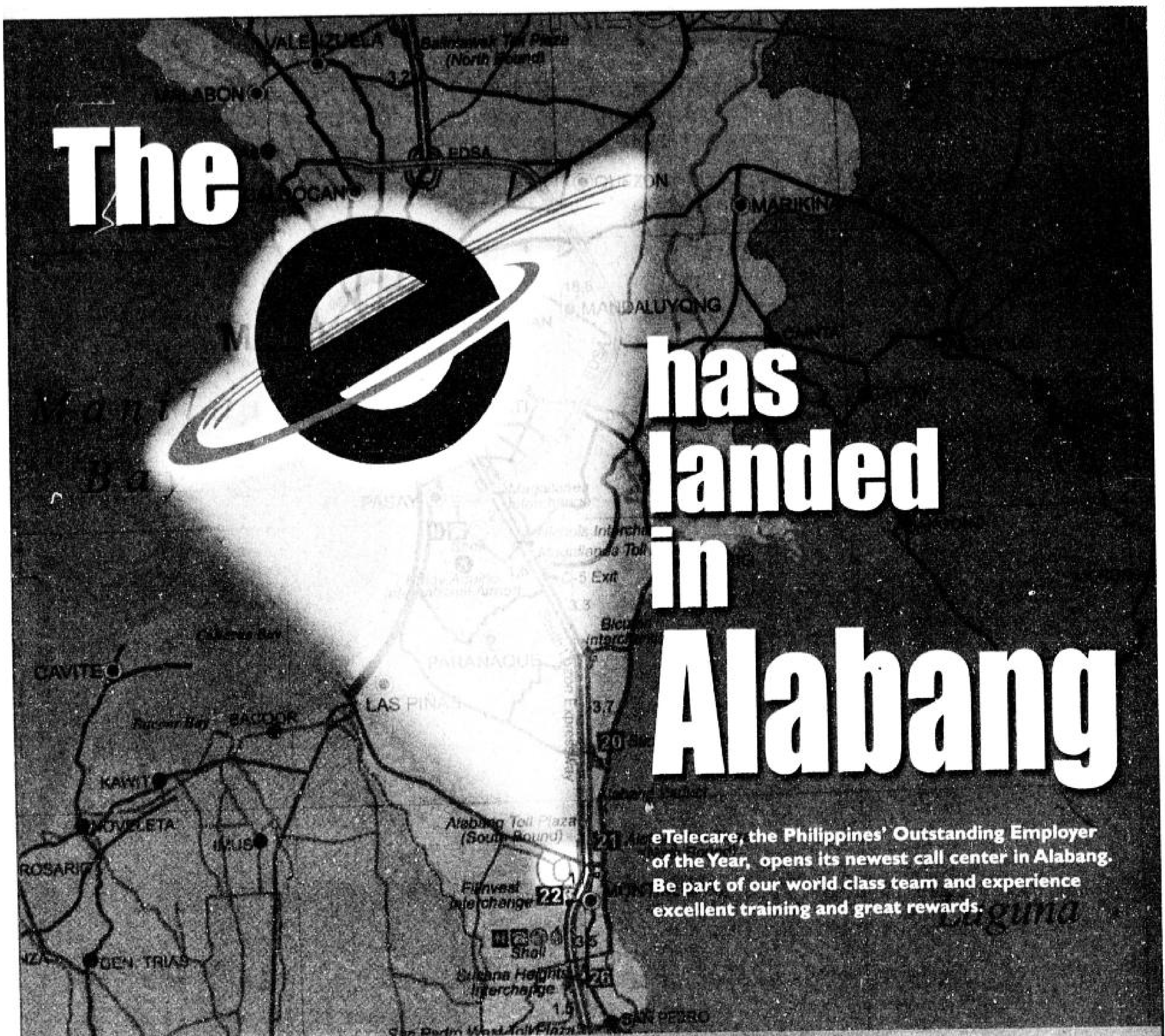

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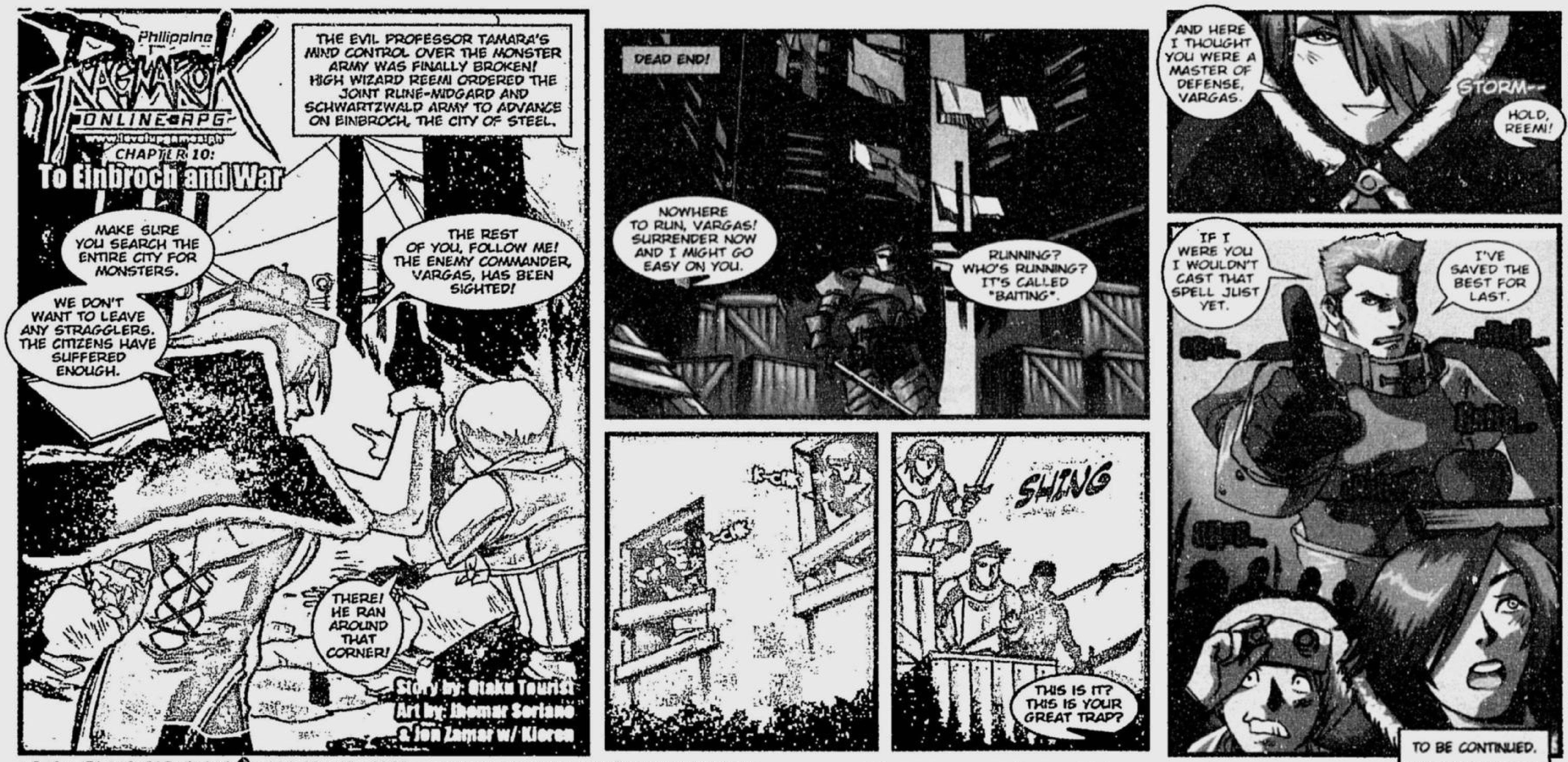
RAGNAROK

BY LEVEL UP GAMES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CHAPTER 10:
To Einbroch and War
THE EVIL PROFESSOR TAMARA'S MIND CONTROL OVER THE MONSTER ARMY WAS FINALLY BROKEN! HIGH WIZARD REEMI ORDERED THE JOINT RUNE-MIDGARD AND SCHWARTZWALD ARMY TO ADVANCE ON EINBROCH, THE CITY OF STEEL.
MAKE SURE YOU SEARCH THE ENTIRE CITY FOR MONSTERS.
WE DON'T WANT TO LEAVE ANY STRAGGLERS. THE CITIZENS HAVE SUFFERED ENOUGH.
THE REST OF YOU, FOLLOW ME! THE ENEMY COMMANDER, VARGAS, HAS BEEN SIGHTED!
THERE! HE RAN AROUND THAT CORNER!
Story by: Otaku Tourist
Art by: Jhomar Soriano & Jon Zamar w/ Kieren
DEAD END!
NOWHERE TO RUN, VARGAS! SURRENDER NOW AND I MIGHT GO EASY ON YOU.
RUNNING? WHO'S RUNNING? IT'S CALLED "BAITING".
SHING
THIS IS IT? THIS IS YOUR GREAT TRAP?
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE A MASTER OF DEFENSE, VARGAS.
STORM--
HOLD, REEMI!
IF I WERE YOU I WOULDN'T CAST THAT SPELL JUST YET.
I'VE SAVED THE BEST FOR LAST.
TO BE CONTINUED.

EPISODE 12: LIGHTHALZEN WEBSITE NOW UP! HTTP://WWW.RAGNAROK.PH/EPISODE12 SARAP DITO!

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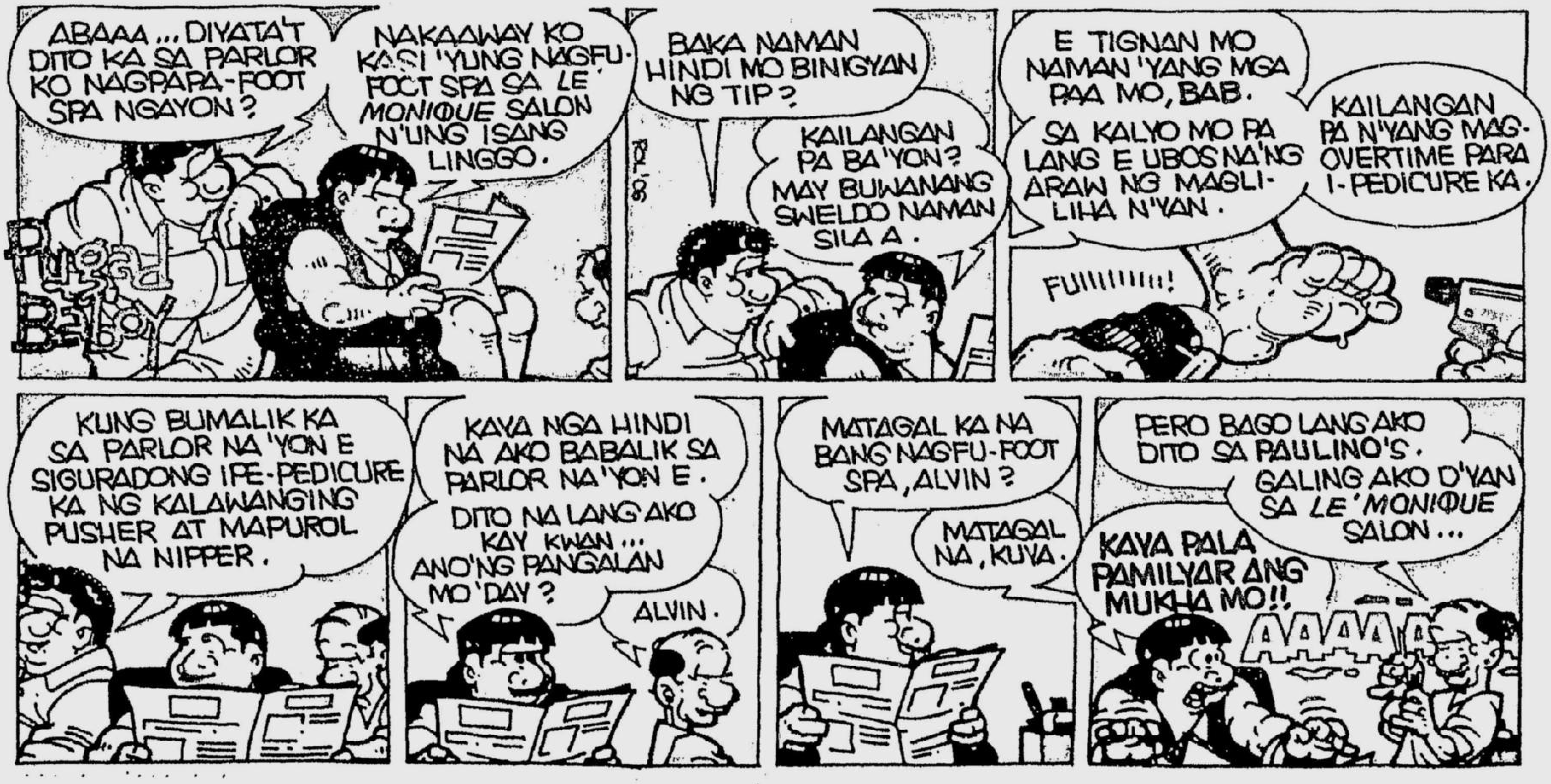
* This strip is a repeat of last week's issue because the writer/artists were unable to meet the deadline

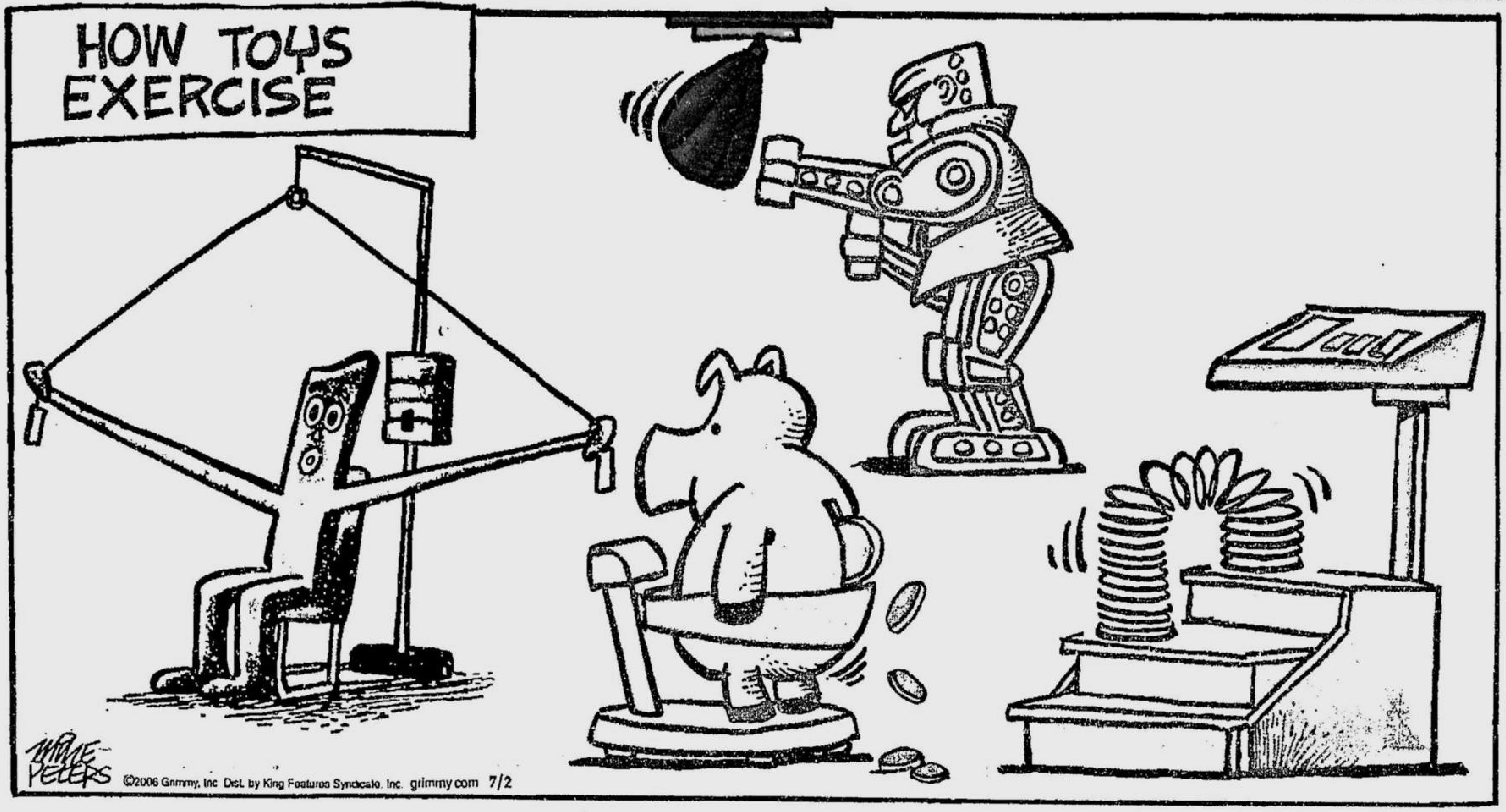
PUGAD BABOY

BY POL MEDINA JR.


ABAAA ... DIYATA'T DITO KA SA PARLOR KO NAGPAPA-FOOT SPA NGAYON?
NAKAAWAY KO KASI 'YUNG NAGFU-FOOT SPA SA LE MONIQUE SALON N'UNG ISANG LINGGO.
Pugad Baboy
POL '06
BAKA NAMAN HINDI MO BINIGYAN NG TIP?
KAILANGAN PA BA 'YON? MAY BUWANANG SWELDO NAMAN SILA A.
E TIGNAN MO NAMAN 'YANG MGA PAA MO, BAB.
SA KALYO MO PA LANG E UBOS NA'NG ARAW NG MAGLILIHA N'YAN.
KAILANGAN PA N'YANG MAG-OVERTIME PARA I-PEDICURE KA.
FUIIIIIIII!
KUNG BUMALIK KA SA PARLOR NA 'YON E SIGURADONG IPE-PEDICURE KA NG KALAWANGING PUSHER AT MAPUROL NA NIPPER.
KAYA NGA HINDI NA AKO BABALIK SA PARLOR NA 'YON E.
DITO NA LANG AKO KAY KWAN ... ANO'NG PANGALAN MO 'DAY?
ALVIN.
MATAGAL KA NA BANG NAGFU-FOOT SPA, ALVIN?
MATAGAL NA, KUYA.
PERO BAGO LANG AKO DITO SA PAULINO'S.
GALING AKO D'YAN SA LE' MONIQUE SALON ...
KAYA PALA PAMILYAR ANG MUKHA MO!!
AAAAA

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


HOW TOYS EXERCISE
MIKE PETERS
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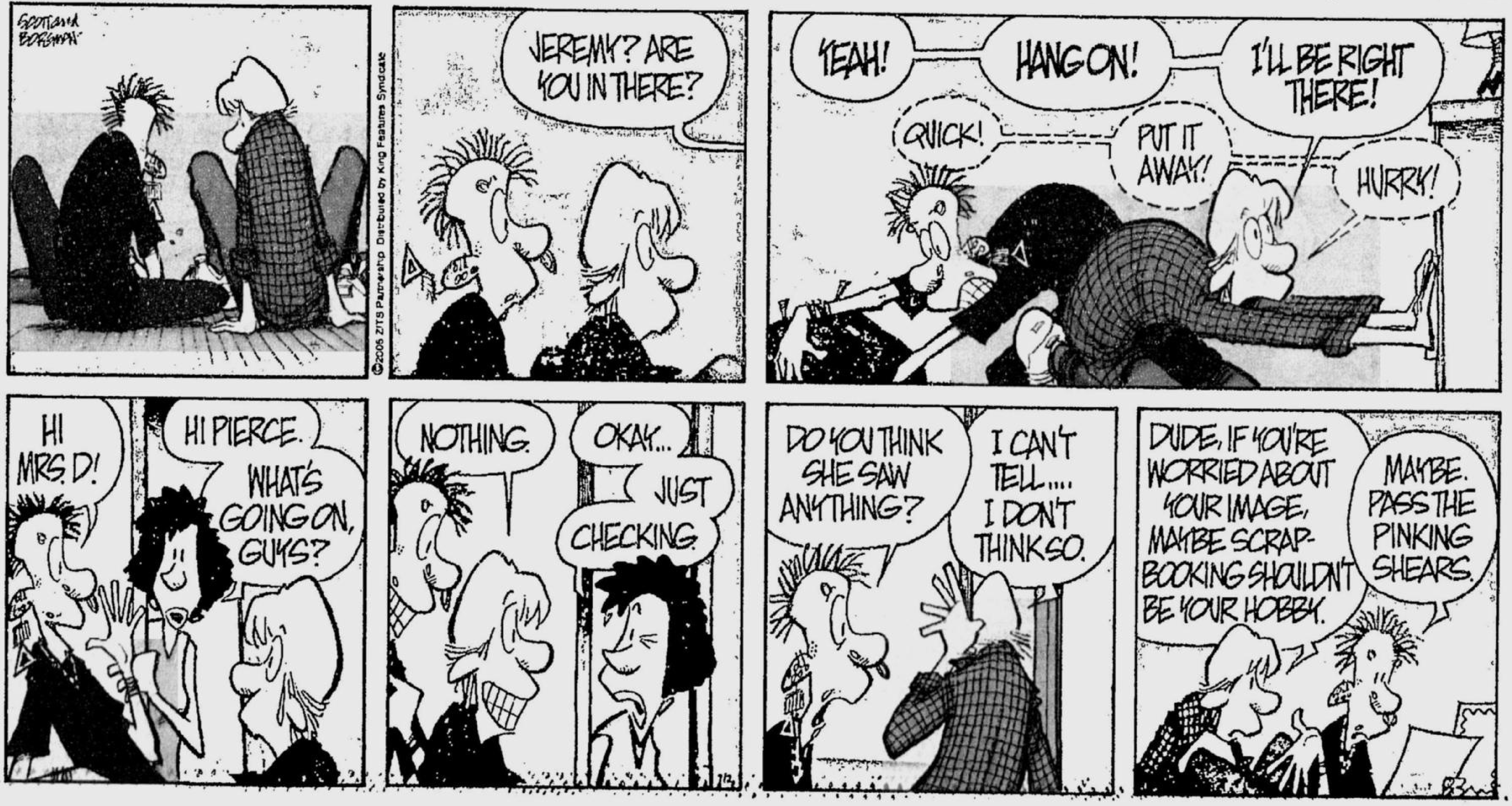
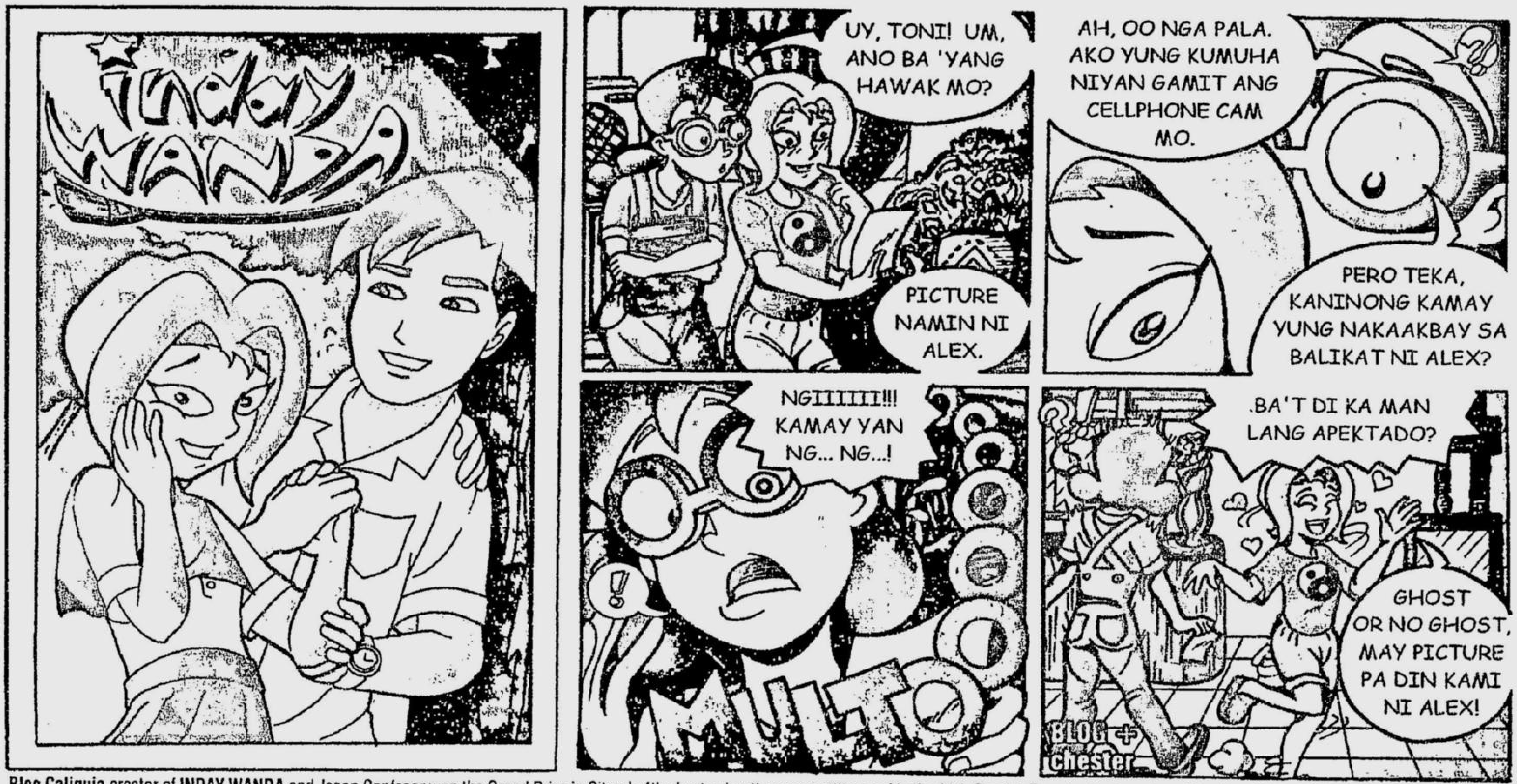
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


SCOTT and BORGMAN
©2006 ZITS Partnership Distributed by King Features Syndicate
JEREMY? ARE YOU IN THERE?
YEAH!
HANG ON!
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
QUICK!
PUT IT AWAY!
HURRY!
HI MRS. D!
HI PIERCE.
WHAT'S GOING ON, GUYS?
NOTHING.
OKAY...
JUST CHECKING.
DO YOU THINK SHE SAW ANYTHING?
I CAN'T TELL.... I DON'T THINK SO.
DUDE, IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR IMAGE, MAYBE SCRAP-BOOKING SHOULDN'T BE YOUR HOBBY.
MAYBE. PASS THE PINKING SHEARS.

INDAY WANDA

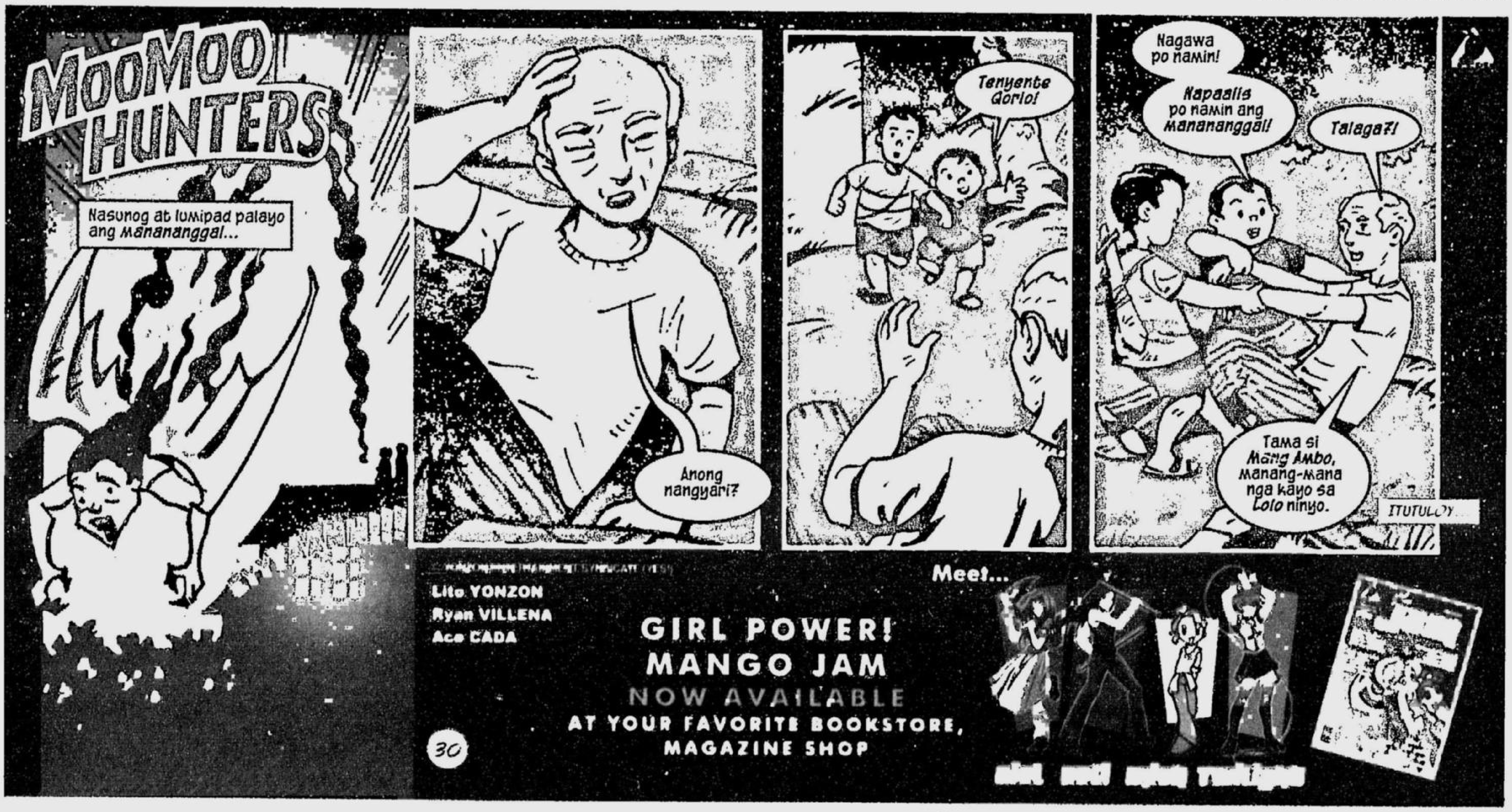
BY BLOG CALIGUIA


Inday Wanda
UY, TONI! UM, ANO BA 'YANG HAWAK MO?
PICTURE NAMIN NI ALEX.
AH, OO NGA PALA. AKO YUNG KUMUHA NIYAN GAMIT ANG CELLPHONE CAM MO.
PERO TEKA, KANINONG KAMAY YUNG NAKAAKBAY SA BALIKAT NI ALEX?
NGIIIIII!!! KAMAY YAN NG... NG...!
MULTO
.BA'T DI KA MAN LANG APEKTADO?
GHOST OR NO GHOST, MAY PICTURE PA DIN KAMI NI ALEX!
BLOG + chester

Blog Caliguia, creator of **INDAY WANDA**, and Jason Confesor won the Grand Prize in Citem's 4th short animation competition and in the 11th Graphic Expo for their work on **'Doodle of Doom.'** Congratulations!

MOOMOO HUNTERS

BY MANGO COMICS


MooMoo HUNTERS
Nasunog at lumipad palayo ang manananggal...
Anong nangyari?
Tenyente Gorio!
Nagawa po namin!
Napaalis po namin ang manananggal!
Talaga?!
Tama si Mang Ambo, manang-mana nga kayo sa Lolo ninyo.
ITUTULOY...
Lito YONZON
Ryan VILLENA
Ace CADA
Meet...

GIRL POWER!
MANGO JAM
NOW AVAILABLE
AT YOUR FAVORITE BOOKSTORE,
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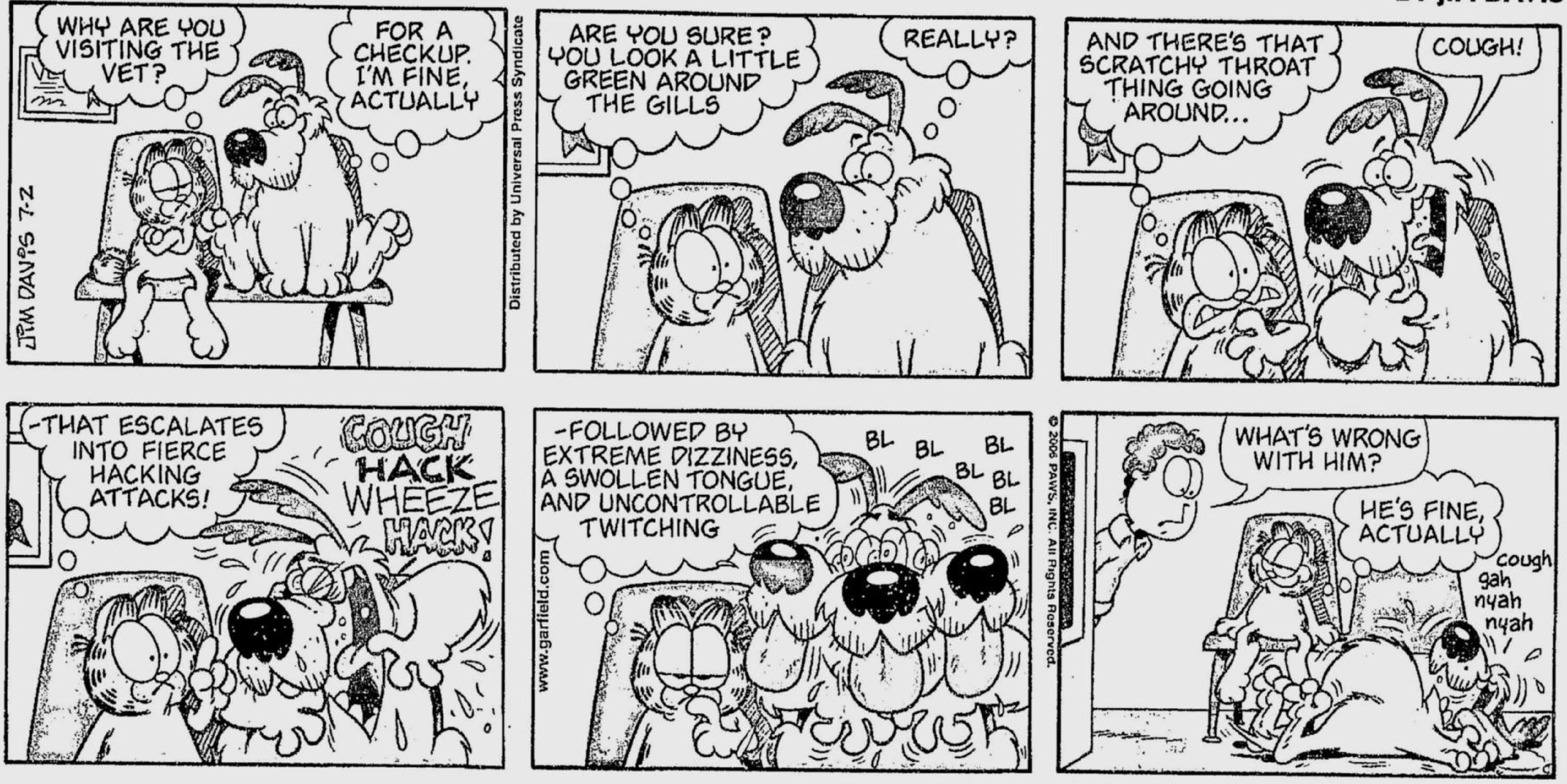
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


WHY ARE YOU VISITING THE VET?
FOR A CHECKUP. I'M FINE, ACTUALLY
JIM DAVIS 7-2
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
ARE YOU SURE? YOU LOOK A LITTLE GREEN AROUND THE GILLS
REALLY?
AND THERE'S THAT SCRATCHY THROAT THING GOING AROUND...
COUGH!
-THAT ESCALATES INTO FIERCE HACKING ATTACKS!
COUGH HACK WHEEZE HACK!
-FOLLOWED BY EXTREME DIZZINESS, A SWOLLEN TONGUE, AND UNCONTROLLABLE TWITCHING
BL BL BL BL BL BL
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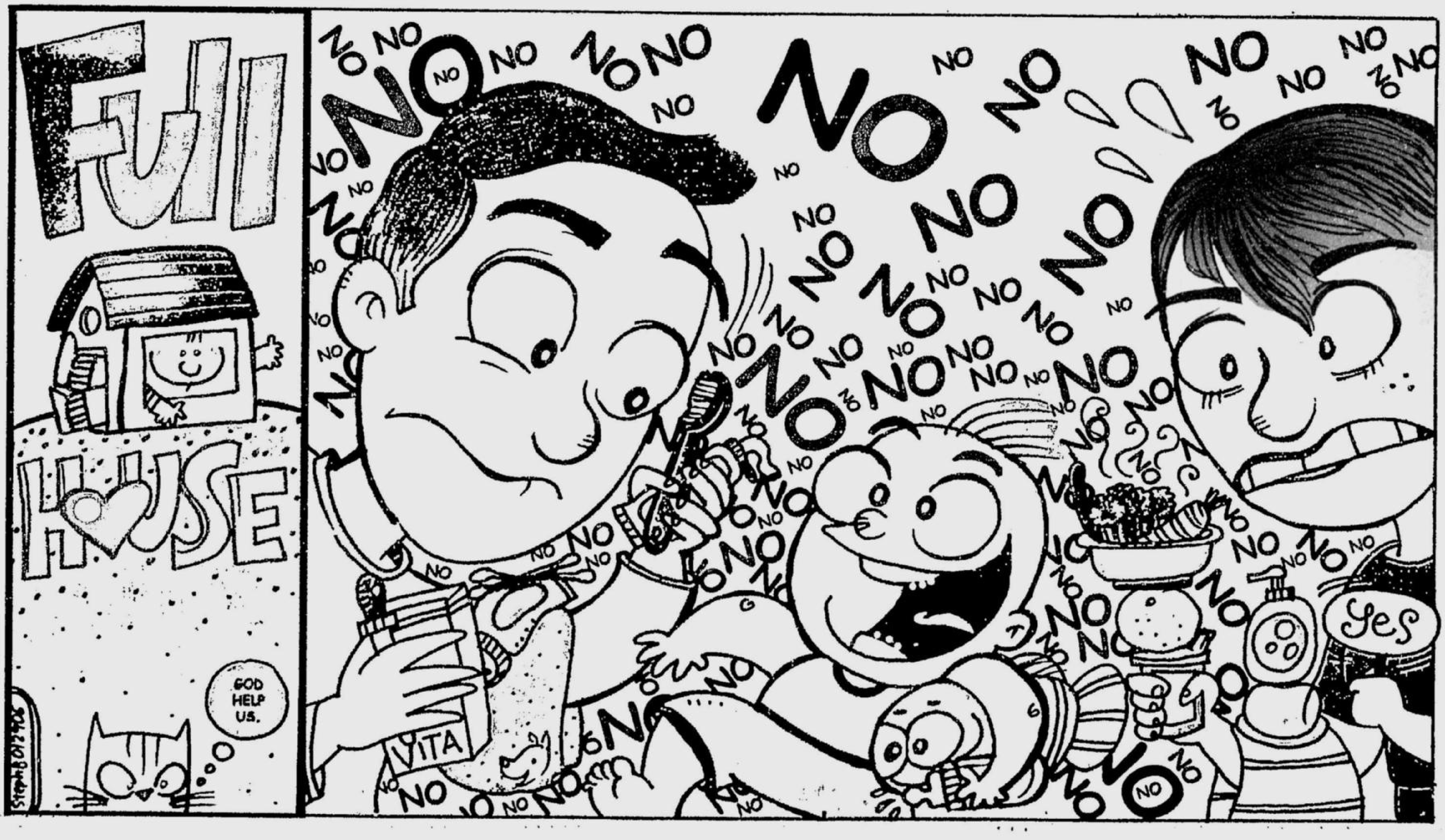
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?
HE'S FINE, ACTUALLY
cough gah nyah nyah

FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO


FULL HOUSE
NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO
GOD HELP US.
VITA
Yes

July 2, 2006
sunday INQUIRER magazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

PALPARAN
PHIL. ARMY

Rebel hunter Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan claims he sleeps soundly at night and can go to Divisoria with only his wife as security

In his all-out war against the Reds, this General dubbed the Butcher claims conscience is the least of his concerns

by Fe B. Zamora
photograph by Melvin Gascon
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

HIS head is the first thing one notices about Major Gen. Jovito Palparan. It's small and round like a *sineguelas* fruit, with ears jutting out like teacup handles. With his crewcut and cheery mien, Palparan looks more like a scout master herding a group of playful youngsters on their first bivouac.

Instead, on this sweltering May afternoon in Bgy. Sampaloc, San Rafael, Bulacan, the commanding general of the 7th Infantry Division, is speaking in this "peace rally" organized by the military.

Surveying the crowd, Palparan starts his speech soberly: "*Sabi nila, mamatay-tao ako* (people say I'm a killer)." Breaking slowly into a grin, he continues: "*Hindi naman lahat aking pinapatay* (But I don't kill everyone)." The menfolk break into nervous laughter, the women crane their necks for a better view of the speaker. Palparan pauses to savor the moment. "What will we get if we make you suffer?" he continues, teasing the crowd in Filipino. "I don't want to go through life hated by so many people. As soldiers, we are here to help because that is our duty, that is our happiness."

To page 2

A loving tutor, *p.3*

A living amulet, *p.4*

A fateful gift, *p.5*

Maj. Gen. *...from page 1*

An officer's reward: Receiving a medal from the President and the top brass

PDI FILE

Earlier in the day, some 500 barangay officials as well as alleged members and sympathizers of the communist New People's Army (NPA) members had a seminar on how to defend their communities from NPA intrusion. One after the other, the barangay captains mounted the stage and unfurled an orange cartolina scribbled with answers to several questions posed by the military. "What is the situation in your barangay before the soldiers came? Were there communists present? Why/how did they get there? What did you do to get rid of the communists? What will you do to keep them away?" the questions read.

One barangay captain who had difficulty explaining the situation in his NPA-infested village got a sharp reprimand from the moderator, a military-looking man wearing a vest and who spoke crunchy Filipino. "Don't call them people. Call them NPA, criminals, terrorists," the moderator said gruffly. "What to do if they refuse to leave?" he prompted, before answering his own question. "Kill them then..." he said, voice booming across the open gymnasium of the Carlos Gonzales High School

"Perhaps if we have weapons..." the barangay captain suggested tentatively, twisting his lean body towards the moderator.

"*Wala ba kayong mga itak* (But don't you have machetes)?," the moderator replied. "Dead men cannot complain anymore. Remember what General Palparan said last night?" The men nodded in approval.

Never has killing and death been spoken of so blithely than on this afternoon of counter-insurgency talk. "*Kung hindi aakyat sa* stage, *tigok*! (Come up the stage, or you're dead)," the emcee joked as he called on an ex-NPA member to denounce his former comrades. The crowd tittered nervously, and with good reason. Palparan has vowed to cleanse Bulacan—and Central Luzon, for that matter—of NPAs before his 56th birthday on September 11, a birthdate he shares with deposed strongman Ferdinand Marcos. "They surrender, they evacuate, they disappear, they die, I don't care what happens to them. What's important is that they are no longer here," Palparan declares.

Palparan: "No innocent victims"

PDI PHOTO

Shameless mastermind

Though delivered light-heartedly, Palparan's statement should not be taken lightly.

Of the more than 600 extrajudicial killings of militants, peasants, fisherfolk, students and human rights advocates reported since 2001, almost 500 have been blamed by militants on Palparan, whom they have tagged "the butcher of Mindoro and Eastern Visayas," where he was assigned from 2001 to 2005.

Militant groups have described the general as shameless and "thick-faced" for masterminding the deaths of hapless farmers and fisherfolk, the same people, they say, who toil hard so that the likes of Palparan, President Arroyo and the rest of the country, can have food on their table.

"Palparan is not only arrogant, he is also psychotic," says Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) Secretary General Danilo Ramos.

But Palparan merely scoffs at the accusations. "(The killings are) being attributed to me, but I did not kill them. I just inspired (the triggermen)," he chuckles. "We are not admitting responsibility here, what I'm saying is that these are necessary incidents."

In the week following President Arroyo's declaration of total war against communist insurgents, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez has said as much, dismissing the loss of innocent lives as "collateral damage."

Palparan does him one better. "There are no innocent victims," he says. "These people are suspected of having done wrong in the community." He then gave a litany of how the NPAs meted so-called revolutionary justice on villagers suspected of playing footsie with the military.

"The victims (of NPA justice) have families, they have relatives. If the threat comes to them to a point when they have to take action, then maybe they should. They are only defending themselves," he adds.

Palparan similarly shrugs off charges of human rights abuses leveled against him. "*Wala akong* hang-up *dyan*. (I have no hang-ups about that). We are fighting a movement that is violent. More violence will come to us if we just allow them to do what they want," he says.

Simple choice

He rues as well the lack of troops fielded against the enemy, and how some soldiers lack motivation in pursuing the target. "If I were the chief of staff, I'd take control over resources. Those who don't work will get relieved, as simple as that. What's important is for them to do the job. Do everything you can to clear the area. It's all up to you."

A fellow officer who has worked with Palparan says the general is actually giving people a choice. "The choice is simple: who would these people rather have as foes: the military or the NPA?"

Palparan may have been described by his detractors as a soldier of death, but he is no phenomenon in the Philippine countryside where poverty rules and the wealthy govern. The disparity between the impoverished majority and the wealthy few has provided a natural fertile ground for insurgency in Central Luzon where Col. Napoleon Valeriano and the "skull squadrons" hunted the Huks in the '50s.

The '70s and the '80s produced other notorious personalities, among them Col. Carlos Lademora with the Lost Command, who sowed terror in Samar and later in Mindanao, and Lt. Col. Rodolfo Aguinaldo, the self-styled rebel hunter who, in the North, had been known to torture his prey.

Killing machine

Palparan joined the Armed Forces just as the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) launched its secessionist war in Mindanao in 1974. Unlike the Huks who were into guerilla hit-and-run tactics, the MNLF favored conventional warfare, firing rockets at the government troops in battles that often lasted from dusk till dawn. Palparan was shipped off to Jolo, the heartland of the Moro secessionist movement. He was with the 24th Infantry Batallion, which has been described by a retired Army general as a unit geared for "shock action" against the MNLF. "That unit was a virtual killing machine: we had to caution them to slow down," the retired official said.

Palparan describes it as "a kill-or-be-killed situation." He said the fighting was so fierce that he lost 40 men during a month-long battle in 1979. The 500-strong battalion would lose over 200 troops in the manhunt for Usman Sali, the leader of the group that massacred Brig. Gen. Teodulo Bautista and 34 soldiers and men on October 10, 1977. "So I became company commander and operations officer at the same time because no other officer would report to the unit," Palparan recalls.

The battalion commander then was Col. Jose Dado, while the brigade commander was Brig. Gen. Rodolfo Canieso, a tough-talking soldier who became a legend in Mindanao as "*kanyonieso*," mainly because his preferred weapon of engagement was the cannon. According to lore, Canieso never balked at raining cannons upon enemy positions. He was reportedly as eager to fire cannons at troops who hesitated to attack the enemy, making sure that the cannons landed on the soldiers' asses, thereby jolting them to move forward.

Still, in any armed conflict, it is the civilians who suffer the most, acknowledges Palparan during the interview in Bulacan. Women and children become natural victims "because they don't know where to run, how to hide," he says. The worse part was that in Sulu, battle-weary soldiers saw the Tausug children as "future enemies, so the thinking was to finish them off while they were still young," Palparan reveals.

Convincing victory

But it was a "convincing victory" that the 24th IB achieved in Patikul some 26 years ago, the general crows. "We finished off the MNLF—at least in Patikul—until Butz Aquino revived it by bringing Nur Misuari back in 1986."

The 24th IB would be moved to Central Luzon in the early '80s to fight the NPAs. Palparan would also join the unit, and by 1989, would assume the post as battalion commander, which he held until 1991. His list of human rights violations reportedly started about this time, with him scoring at least seven incidents of salvagings, five incidents of harassment, five incidents of illegal arrest and detention, two incidents of grenade bombing, and one incident each of massacre and aerial assault, according to the militants' report on Palparan's human rights record.

The controversial officer also claims "convincing victory" in Naujan, Victoria and Baco, all in Mindoro Oriental, which were among his areas of operation as chief of the 204th Brigade from 2001 to 2003.

Another "convincing victory" was in Calbiga, Samar, which he also covered as chief of the 8th Infantry Division from February to June last year. But it's a victory daubed with blood, according to militants, who tally nearly 300 incidents of extra judicial killings. Such a record has earned Palparan the "butcher" tag from several people's organizations.

Alleged abuses

Despite the reported trail of death and disappearances that follow in his wake, Palparan remains in the good graces of the Arroyo administration. In September 2005, he was assigned to head the 7th ID which has jurisdiction over Pampanga, Tarlac, Zambales, Bataan, Pangasinan, Aurora and Bulacan.

By January this year, Bulacan Gov. Josefina dela Cruz started receiving reports about Palparan's alleged human rights abuses.

"I have no quarrel with General Palparan on counter-insurgency, but I cannot quite agree with his methods," says Dela Cruz. She was particularly miffed when Palparan's men began house-to-house searches without even informing the mayor, much less the local police. "*Sabi ba naman, walang* mayor-mayor or governor-governor *sa amin* (He said he doesn't give a damn about mayors or governors)" Dela Cruz says, quoting the report from a local official.

Since then, Dela Cruz has been crossing swords with the controversial general in public. And Palparan has fought back by telling the media that the governor was an NPA supporter. Dela Cruz says Palparan's move was predictable. In fact, she notes, the general has also linked Bulacan Rep. Lorna Silverio to the rebel movement after the legislator held a dialog with the military following the February 1 massacre of five farm workers in San Ildefonso town. *(Palparan and Governor Dela Cruz met last week and agreed to "open lines" on issues involving the conduct and operations of soldiers in Bulacan amid the government's heightened anti-insurgency campaign.--Ed.)*

Ignored resolution

Separate fact-findings conducted by the militant Karapatan and the provincial board pointed to the 24th IB as the culprits. In March, the provincial board passed a resolution urging Palparan to pull out Sgt. Rizal Hilario, a member of the 24th IB, from San Ildefonso, to allow scared witnesses to come out and testify. Palparan had apparently ignored the resolution because Hilario is still maintaining his base in Barangay Pinaod, site of the massacre.

Through all these controversies, Palparan would only shrug his shoulders. "*Hindi pwedeng atrasan dito, tuloy tuloy na ito* (There's no going back now; we have to keep going)" he says. In fact, he adds, the military is already behind schedule. "If only I could assign one soldier to guard every house..." he says wistfully.

If he can't clear Central Luzon of insurgents by September, Palparan says he is hoping that his successors "would do the job so at least I can retire in peace," he says. He definitely doesn't want to end up like Aguinaldo, who was killed by the NPA hit squad in June 2001.

Indeed, Palparan has gone a long way from his humble beginnings in Cagayan de Oro City, where he was born on Sept. 11, 1950. The boy spent his childhood in his father's hometown in Malitnog, Southern Leyte, his high school years back in CDO, and college at the University of the East in Manila where he earned his BS in Business Administration in 1973. He pursued further studies even while in the military, tucking an MA in Management from the Philippine Christian University and an MA in National Security Administration from the National Defense College of the Philippines.

Low-key life

Through all his high-profile war against the NPA, Palparan leads a low-key private life. Details about his family are scanty. "If they see me worried, then they would also worry. They would be reacting to me," he says. "But I can still go to Divisoria with my wife. She is bigger than me, so she's my security," he laughs.

He continues: "If I pray every morning for God to protect me, He might think I have become nervous. If you are doing right, God will protect you, so I do my job. You do not ask God for things that you can do; you only ask God for things that you cannot do yourself. I'm a practical person that way. I don't want to give the Lord too much burden," Besides, Palparan avers, he has no problem sleeping at night. There are no skeletons walking in his dreams, he says. "That's being paranoid; time to be confined at Ward 24 and ½," he laughs out loud. "It could also be conscience. But I don't have that," he shrugs. ◘

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Kambal-Tuko

Kahit nakauwi na ang ama sa bahay,
hindi sila nahiyang mahuling naghahabulan.

Sa pagpalobo ng mga pisngi, mukha pa silang
naghahagikhikan. Nakapaghubad na ng sapatos ang ama,

patuloy lamang sila sa pagtakbo: sa hagdan,
sa kuwarto—pati ang pader ay ginawa nang sahig.

Lilingon ang ama, mapapailing sa dalawang ipuipo
sa sala—muntik nang magpaalam ang ilang plorera!

Kailan kaya magpapang-abot ang magsinliksing binatilyo?

Itinaas ng ama ang kanang kamay, sabay sumipol.
Nalunod lamang ang tinis nito sa kanilang tawanan.

Isinampay ng ama sa balikat ang pawis na damit,
at tinawag ang kanilang pangalan,

subalit walang tumigil, o kumaway pabalik,
ni tumugon sa tunog ng kanilang pangalan-

patuloy lamang sila sa kanilang kasiyahan;
tila walang kapaguran.

Wala nang magagawa pa ang isang ama.
Bumalik na lamang siya sa sofa at humilata.

Jasper Po

Survivors' Tales

by Hanna Lacsamana

'Teacher Glo' learns the language of standing on her own

Despite a dangerous bone condition, Gloria Leal decided that she would do her part to provide enlightened tutorial services

WOMEN'S FEATURE SERVICE

THOUGH hunched and standing less than five feet, 50-year-old Gloria R. Leal of Baguio City still stands tall. "Teacher Glo," as she is fondly called, suffers from a serious case of congenital scoliosis, a curvature of the spine. Aside from making history as one of the few to survive this condition, she is also recognized in Baguio City as having put up the Students Trained to Excel for Progress (STEP) Tutorial and Learning Center, the first and only tutorial language and child care center in the heart of the city.

Unlike the more common form of scoliosis, Leal's spine curves into an inverted C shape which makes the deformity more severe as it affects all the internal organs. Her condition was considered a special case by visiting Asian surgeons and experts at the National Orthopedic Hospital who operated on her in 1984. She was one of 25 grantees of the free medical operation which at that time could have cost her P200,000, hardly affordable for one who comes from an average-income family.

Sorry plight

Before the operation, her condition caused her a lot of pain and some paralysis. She had to wear a brace then to aid her in walking. Prayers kept her going and stilled her fear. And nothing, even comments about her appearance, could stop her from pursuing what she wanted to do. "I don't mind (the remarks). Even if I'm like this, I can do things better than some normal people do," Leal says. She was the last to go home among the grantees but was on her feet and back to work at a refugee camp after less than 100 days, when in fact her case required at least half a year to heal.

It was during her hospital stay that she saw the sorry plight of indigent patients in the charity ward. "I learned then that you have to enjoy the simple joys of life. Make the best of what you have because life is so short. So what ever you can do, do it now," Leal said.

Leal never dreamt of becoming a teacher. She earned a degree in Mass Communication at St. Louis University. A year after she graduated and before she could apply what she had learned in college, came the opportunity to teach English as a Second Language at a refugee camp in Morong, Bataan. This was in the early 1980s when she was hired by the United Nations to teach refugees, both adults and children, from the then war-torn countries of Laos, Cambodia and Malaysia, who had sought refuge in Morong.

Leal considers those 13 years as the most fruitful, meaningful and memorable

experience she'd ever had in teaching. "While at the camp, my heart for the service grew. I consider myself lucky because I saw how it was living in a war-torn country." She nurtured the idea of continuing teaching after she left Morong, this time helping children in Baguio City to cope with their lessons in schools. She put up the STEP Tutorial and Learning Center 'where a child is always a step ahead'.

A determined spirit

With the help of the other teachers who returned to Baguio after the camp, Leal in 1993 put up the tutorial center whose first clients were two Cabrini nuns who wanted to learn the Ilocano dialect for their mission work. After numerous changes of location, STEP Learning and Review Center finally is now located at PortaVaga in the center of the city's central business district. Four years after the tutorial center was put up, STEP Learning Academy rose in Campo Sioco which offers preschool, elementary and high school programs.

As a differently-abled woman, Leal chose to be of service and an asset rather than a liability to the state or her family. Despite an environment that still belittles her at times for her appearance, Leal serves as an inspiration to others like her for showing that opportunities are not lost on a determined spirit. Q

Women's Feature Service

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TV GUIDE

Sunday, July [illegible] 2006

THEY WILL BE THE JUDGES. YOU WILL BE THE JURY.
Philippine Idol
ABANGAN SA JULY 29!
ABC
Iba Tayo!

ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABC 5		Ringside TV		PBA															
ABS-CBN 2	Your Song	SCQ Kids			The Buzz				Goin' Bulilit		Rated K		TV Patrol World	Sharon	U Can Dance	Trip Na Trip			
AXN														CSI (Season 6)					
Cartoon Network	Powerpuff Girls	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	Tom & Jerry Show	Pet Alien/Planet Sketch/Camp Lazlo	Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy/Cow & Chicken	Pet Alien/Camp Lazlo	The Simpsons		Megas XLR	Courage The Cowardly Dog		Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	The Simpsons		Power Rangers Dino Thunder	Gundam Seed		Aqua Teen Hunger Force/Sealab 2021
Cinemax			Taking Lives			Rules Of Obsession			Mystic River					Cerberus			Opposite Of Sex		
CNN		World News		World News	World Sport	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	World News		World News	World Sport	Talk Asia		World News	Daily Show w/ Jon Stewart	Late Edition Live	
Crime/Suspense		I, Detective	Crime Scene Academy	Law & Order		Law & Order Criminal Content		Law & Order Special Victims Unit		What Should You Do?		Cold Case		Law & Order Criminal Content		Dominick Dunne's Power, Privilege & Justice			
Disney Channel	Lizzie Mcguire	Totally Spies/Suite Life Of Zack And Cody	Phil Of The Future	Brandy & Mr. Whiskers	Lilo & Stitch	Martin Mystery	Buzz on Maggie	Lilo & Stitch/Kim Possible/That's So Raven	The Suite Life Of Zack & Cody		Wonderful World Of Disney			Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	Kim Possible	Martin Mystery	Wonderful World Of Disney	
ESPN				Major League Baseball Saturday						Premier Snooker League '05		Germany Tonight		Major League Baseball Saturday					
ETC		Saturday Night Live		Joan Of Arcadia 2		American Dreams 3		One Tree Hill 3		America's Next Top Model 4		Queer Eye For The Straight Guy		Project Runway		Nip/ Tuck 3		TBD	Insider Weekend
ETC 2nd Avenue		Blowout 2		Today Show - 1 Hour - Version		Dateline		Cold Turkey		NBC Nightly News	WSJR	The Biggest Loser		The Director		West Wing		NBC Nightly News	Hollywood One On One
EWTN	Defending Life	Chaplet Of Mercy/ Angelus	The Donut Man	Adventures In Odyssey	Rosary With Mother Angelica	Octava Dies	Rome Reports	EWTN Global Showcase		Onward Pilgrims	Images of Mary	Sunday Mass Live			The World Over Encore		Life Is Worth Living	The Abundant Life	
Fox News	Fox News Watch	Fox Report Saturday		Heartland With John Kasich		Big Story Weekend Edition		Beltway Boys	Fox News Watch	Fox & Friends Sunday						Fox News Live			
GMA 7	Gigstars	Love To Love		S-Files				Mahiwagang Baul		Kakabaka-boo		Mel & Joey		All Star K		Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office	
Hallmark Channel										Just Cause		Child Of Our Time (7 55 PM)							
HBO *		Murphy's Romance				White Water Summer			Along Came Polly			[illegible]	Groundhog Day			After The Sunset (10 10PM)			Wag The Dog (11 45PM)
Hero TV	Machine Robo-Rescue	Dear Boys	GPX Cyber Formula	Baki The Grappler	Zenki	Super Yoyo	Ragnarok	Musumet	The Slayers	Baron One	Babel II	Mars The Terminator	Hero TV Theatrixx	Dragons	Fire & Ice	Machine Robo-Rescue	Dear Boys	Zenki	Baki The Grappler
IBC 13		Ano Bang Hanap Mo?		EZ Shop		Home Shopping Network		Home Shopping Network		Legacy Of Hero		Pinoy Action Hits				Iyo Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI		
JackTV	Everybody Hates Chris	Arrested Development	Always Sunny In Philadelphia	Family Guy	Jack Yard	Afterburn		Smackdown				Jack In The Box				Dr Katz	Weekends W/ D. L	Comedy Central Presents	Premium Blend
Lifestyle Network		Smart Solutions	Country Style	Your Private Island	Fine Living Special		Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Wolfgang Puck	Food Network Special		E! Entertainment Special						Fashion Trance	
MTV Philippines					Homecoming	Laguna Beach		Pimp My Ride		PunkD			Ultrasound			MTV Hits			
MYX		Pinoy MYX Countdown				Take 5	MYX Bandarito	MYX News	Star MYX	OPM MYX	Pop MYX	MYX Presents			MYX Hit Chart			MYX Backtrax	MYXILOG
National Geographic		Catastrophe The Super Twisters		Explorations By Duracell	Rough Tracks	Planet Football Leopards of Zanzibar		The True Face of Hurricanes		Explorations By Duracell	Rough Trades	Mega Asia Airma International Airport		Predator Week Relentless Enemies				[illegible]	
NBN		Tinig ng Bayan (Sinag Gising)						Tinig ng Bayan (Live)		Congress In Action		The Working President	Kabataan News Network	The Sports List		Pilipinas Ngayon Na!		Special Events From Malacañang	
Nickelodeon	Drake & Josh	Zoey 101	Ned's Declassified School Survival Guide	The Fairly OddParents/Just For Kicks	Catscratch	Avatar: Legend Of Aang	Danny Phantom	Trollz	SpongeBob SquarePants	All That Just For Kicks	Zoey 101	Ned's Declassified School Survival Guide	Dark Oracle	Girls In Love	The Amanda Show	The Brothers Garcia	The Fairly Odd Parents	My Dad The Rock Star	
PBO	Nagkataon, Nagkatagpo				Fight Night 7				Manong Gang		Hataw, Awit, Pinoy 2				Infection				
Qtv		Lois And Clark		Kaleido Star		Bongga Ka Star		Ang Pinaka..		Pop Star Kids		May Trabaho Ka		Sunday Super Sine				Groupee TV	
RPN 9		Golf Power	Fistorama		Global Window	WWE Smackdown		JAG		Navy Ncis		Without A Trace		NBA On RPN					Working President
SBN 21				Buhay Pinoy		Shepherds Voice		New Life				Oras Ng Himala		[illegible]		Galing At Aksyon			
Solar Sports	2006 [illegible] Indonesia Open, Finals								NBA Jam	WNBA 2006 Connecticut vs Indiana				[illegible]				Phil. Bowling Tour	
Sports Plus				Motoring Today		Rookie Manual	Nopi Tunervision 3	Raceworld		FIFA World Cup '06 Match 59 Quarterfinals						This Is The PGA Tour		Golf Today	Inside the PGA
Star Movies	Love Actually					Black Hawk Down					White Noise			National Treasure				Marked For Death	
Star World				North Shore		Buss. Week Asia	Travel Asia	The Apprentice		The Simpsons		Oprah Prime Time		Victoria's Secret Fashion Show	Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Model Search		Malcolm In The Middle	Oprah Prime Time	
Studio 23				PBL Unity Cup Game 2		Exposed					Y Speak Live		US Girls	Desperate Housewives		Digital Tour (10 15PM)	Tru Calling (10:45PM)		Angel

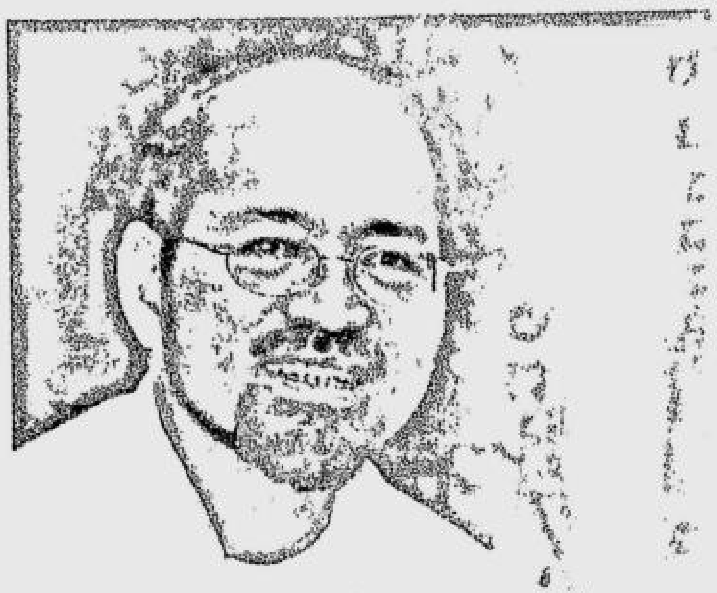
TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Kicker

by Agnes Prieto

photographs by August de la Cruz

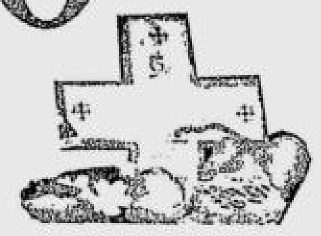
Talks have it that the Jesuits are keeping a little black book that contains the rituals and spells of the native shamans banished by the friars when they Christianized the islands. Could Fr. Ted Gonzales, SJ, be the keeper of this book?



Rm. 301
T. GONZALES, S.J.

Fr. Ted combines old beliefs and modern conventions in his search for new heroes

There's an amulet in the Filipino blood that leads to greatness



IF Harry Potter has his sorcerer's stone, Father Ted has his *agimat*, amulets that transform situations, vanquish evil and bring on the good. Harry Potter though is a storybook character, while Fr. Teodulo "Ted" Gonzales is a Jesuit, as real as the Ateneo.

There is something very intense about Gonzales the SJ, but he is no brooding artist. Priest and pastoral counselor, he is the Program Director at the Center for Family Ministries (Cefam) at the Ateneo, and is a caregiver for the soul. In these congruent roles, he counsels, teaches and facilitates group discussions for personal growth as well as family and community wellness.

Fr. Ted recalls getting attracted to the priesthood early in his childhood, when he used to attend dawn masses with his parents in a small chapel called Apu in Pampanga. His father was a *cursillista* while his mother had a devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Compassion and conservation

Growing up with eight other siblings, the young Ted helped out his mother—who sold fruits and vegetables in the market—by hawking ice candy, sweet tamarind and ginger himself. The early deprivations would teach him compassion and the conservation of resources.

"Our parents sent us to good schools and for this I am grateful," he says. From the provincial high school, he entered the Jesuit-run San Jose Seminary in 1974. He later pursued his master's at the Loyola School of Theology at the Ateneo, and his doctorate in Pastoral Counseling at the Loyola School in Maryland.

"The path to priesthood was not easy," says Fr. Ted. "I had to learn to face the demands of learning and the path of integrity. I had to learn to face doubts and strong emotions of love. I am a very intense and passionate person. My love had to be purified to fit the kind of life I am asked to live. To love with discipline and compassion is a great challenge."

An avid reader, Fr. Ted grabbed anything in print he could hold of: "from books on interior design, to stories on well known personages in finance, business, management and history, to citations in various awards, to 100 Filipino Women , Famous Chinoys, Adarna books for children, and INQUIRER articles "

All these led him to conclude that "Contrary to the notion that we are a damaged culture, we are a culture in search of its soul, identity and spirituality. We have experienced much abuse—which continues on in politics and government—but instead of learning from our past, we repeat its dysfunction. The victims might become the tyrants of tomorrow."

What we need, says Fr. Ted, is an *agimat*, a talisman, an amulet to lead us out of that cycle.

Talks of amulets provoke images of *babaylans* and shamans of yore, well respected figures banished by the friars when they Christianized the islands. There are talks among Filipino occultists that the friars also took away a black book that contained the old rituals and spells of these revered priests and priestesses. That book is rumored to be in the possession of the Jesuits. But what Fr. Ted is espousing is something more prosaic.

Best examples

The *agimat* he refers to is "the value systems which carry our strength as a people and as a country. Instead of focusing on weaknesses and divisiveness, why not focus on the best examples of Filipino strength and solidarity—the Apos, or elders?" the priest suggests.

"We call on Apos from different fields to share their success stories with our young leaders. In this way, they transmit the power or the agimat on to the next generation, inspiring them and affirming their good values," adds Fr. Ted.

The sharing, he says, can be done in a weekend workshop called "*Agimat ni* Apo," which brings together a multisectoral audience and the Apo concept into the mainstream.

The workshop, says Fr. Ted, "takes its participants back to when we knew we were a people of great value, a time when we were proud to be Filipino. The *agimat* is the Filipino symbol for power. It is an archetype, a search for pride and esteem through our local culture."

He continues: "The climax of our legends is when the hero wields his *agimat* and vanquishes the enemy, and though we hardly hear those stories anymore, we have new heroes, we have new myths and legends. We only have to listen to stories of how Jose Rizal, Apolinario Mabini, Jovito Salonga, Ninoy Aquino, Miguel Malvar, Chino Roces, Cecilia Munoz Palma, Haydee Yorac, Randolf David and so many nameless others overcame obstacles and lived their values. These stories are the magical tools we all have access to so that we may transform our lives."

Simplicity and servanthood

The workshop consists of five parts—the first focuses on confidence in times of crisis and draws out the major challenges and stresses undergone. In storytelling, these would be symbolized by the *kapre*, the *tikbalang* and the *multo*—emphasis is given on what builds confidence. The second part is reflection and honest assessment—"how we have lost our sense of giftedness," a look at our strengths and weaknesses. Responsibility, stewardship, simplicity and servanthood are the values focused on in the third part. "We have to stop passing blame. People live in shame," notes Fr. Ted.

Idea, inspiration and imagination make up the fourth module—"Action without vision is purposeless, we have to be able to integrate all that is happening in our lives and align our imagination to the big why. Integrating all these is the fifth module which focuses on solidarity or *bayanihan*. Our dreams will come true because we work with others to realize a common vision."

Says Sr. Soria Aireen Tabada, Provincial Superior of the Holy Family Sisters and a recent workshop participant: "In the weekend get together, the participants are drawn towards an appreciation of our own gems, and the gems of others make us realize that the God who created us is indeed good and is shown in each of us. The problem starts when we are not able to get hold of our gems as a people."

Agrees Choncho Sanchez, another participant and former philosophy professor at St. Scholastica's College: "What Agimat ni Apo points to is not an amulet of magic, or an *anting-anting* of a particular obscure cult, but a living opportunity to be better and not bitter. One is given the clear choice to take the higher road to self-acceptance, confident that one is not alone in the lonely moments of life. Here is where faith, hope and love intermingle in one's heart. The result is that a certain defining moment of inner peace is reached by one whose life has been marred by chaos and confusion. A certain calmness hovers and covers one's heart. At this juncture, self-discovery starts. Crisis becomes catharsis!"

Adds Fr. Ted "We have overlooked the fact that greatness runs through our veins. My favorite song is 'Noypi' (by Bamboo), particularly the lines that go, '*may agimat ang dugo ko* (there's an amulet in my blood).' We have forgotten this. We have been sidetracked by our own gloomy point of view of ourselves, perhaps inherited from the colonizers. We also have to see where we excel, where we do things well. Our mentors lead the way reminding us of our *agimat* to greatness."

A culture of heroes

He continues: "I wish to support the idea of building a culture of heroes, through the search for common patterns or best practices of the people we admire. Fr. Horacio de la Costa, another Jesuit, said that Filipinos have two jewels: Faith and Music. I guess faith and music drive our spirit to dream and to imagine what we can become."

There is a need for a strong body of literature to support this, Fr. Ted admits. It is important to build a base of affirmative and inspiring stories that can somehow be disseminated to a mass audience, he explains, and suggests mobilizing story tellers and encouraging in young Filipinos a love of reading.

"Basa" is a library outreach project, a first baby step to integrate collected stories of heroes in a book called simply, "Agimat." Fr. Ted is optimistic. "Through these and other stories, we hope to begin to sow seeds into a new stream of consciousness."

The base for all these change is the family, he adds, through such programs that Cefam has started: "San Jose," with its focus on Filipino malehood, "Life's Directions" which is offered for young adults on the brink of professional and personal maturity," and "On Fire," a workshop on sexuality.

"It is families that will eventually shape culture," says Fr. Ted. Discipline, both personal and group is important, as is the shift of consciousness through stories and imagination, which is a prime factor in building a nation."

"*Hindi malas ang Pinoy, hindi pa lang siya nagkakamalay* (Filipino aren't cursed; they just lack consciousness as yet)," he concludes.

For more information on Agimat workshop schedules, call Cefam at 02-426-4289 and look for Fr. Ted *by Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz*

The day three angels descended on Guinsaugon

How a phone call from a stranger, an X-ray machine and the tragedy in St. Bernard, Southern Leyte, led Milette Averia to her childhood dream of giving service to a hospital

THE DAY after a catastrophic mudslide buried the town of St. Bernard in Guinsaugon, Southern Leyte, Angela "Milette" S. Averia was having her nails and hair done in a parlor. "I had just come from a 10-day sales meet in Kuala Lumpur and I needed to de-stress," recalls this Country Sales Manager for General Electric (GE) Healthcare Technologies.

Her mobile phone rang. She was on call to her staff 24/7 so that was not surprising, even on a Saturday when the office was closed. Daisy Cruz from IT was calling, reporting that a woman had called their Pasong Tamo office and had requested a return call. The caller had mentioned how badly they needed an X-ray machine for Leyte, Cruz said.

Averia brightened. "I was very excited. I thought I could make a sale." The market had not exactly been jumping the past months and this might reverse that trend.

Averia soon found out that she wouldn't meet her sales quota just yet. Still, she managed to make what could be the biggest sale of her life. Working with couple architect Manny Miñana and freelance photographer Denise Weldon, Averia managed to sell a wonderful and timeless idea to her boss in Singapore. She had pitched: "If GE could extend a hand to the tsunami victims in Indonesia, why not a similar gesture to the Philippines? Guinsagon was our version of the tsunami after all."

Delighted surprise

It was an exceptional case for this company that traces its beginnings to Thomas Alva Edison, who established the Edison Electric Light Company in 1878. "To my knowledge, in my 12 years with GE Philippines, no such request has been made before," says Averia.

But to the delighted surprise of Weldon, who had been angling for the loan of a second hand x-ray unit, GE donated a brand new machine to the Anahawan District Hospital, the closest medical facility to St. Bernard. The generous donation turned the tragedy around for the three people behind this munificence.

For Miñana, giving something back to Guinsagon was a way to reclaim his childhood memories. His great grandfather was from Anahawan, and he recalled passing by St. Bernard on his way to his regular summer haunt where his father, Jose Miñana would be elected mayor in 2001.

"I remember it as a quiet and sleepy town, with lush vegetation and a lovely scenery. But it was quite impoverished and people survived on copra, fishing, abaca and agriculture," he says of the town 30 minutes' drive away from Anahawan.

When continuous heavy rains caused a nearby mountain to collapse and bury St. Bernard under 30 meters of mud on Friday, Feb 17, Miñana knew he had no choice but to help out.

The 44-year-old father of two young children immediately texted and scrolled an urgent appeal for help to his friends that same day. Saturday morning, the first check for P10,000 came. Then the donations started pouring in: blankets, beddings, clothes, cash. "It's true," says an amazed Miñana. "A single drop of water can become an ocean." Their garage started overflowing and still the donations kept coming.

DENISE WELDON

Full outpouring

"The outpouring was so full and genuine, it was like people were just waiting to be asked," shares Weldon. "The donations could fill a huge 6 x 6 truck," she recalls. The Miñanas decided to turn over the first batch of relief goods to the Red Cross. A trucking company took care of the second wave of donations and drove it all the way to Anahawan. The third wave was shipped over by a car company.

It was time to visit the place, Miñana thought. "My father is 73 years old and walks with a crutch. And yet he traveled back to Guinsaugon the following day from Cebu despite the rough roads and the lack of electricity. If he could do it, why couldn't I?"

As he walked the hospital grounds helping distribute the relief goods, Miñana realized that a lot more needed to be done. "They gave me a wish list of provisions and items they needed badly, and topping that list was an x-ray machine for the Anahawan District Hospital."

The hospital was built in the early '50s through the efforts of Congressman Nicanor Yniguez, the father of Southern Leyte's present governor Rosette Lerias. It serves the needs of some 100,000 people from the six surrounding municipalities including St. Bernard, and boasts of a 26-year-old x-ray machine that came from the proceeds of Japanese war reparations.

PEDRO CADAPAN

Guinsaugon brought them together: Averia (left) and Miñana couple, Denise and Manny

"So many survivors suffered from broken bones that the machine finally broke down after so much use," says Miñana. The mayor had managed to borrow another unit from Tacloban, but it was clear that the hospital needed its own machine.

It was then that Weldon decided to make a blind call for a donation. "I didn't know who to call," says this American photographer, "but there's something that can be said about advertising. The name and logo of GE was top of mind, so I called information to get the number. It was the first company I called."

But it was a Saturday, there was no office. Still, Weldon managed to reach a security guard who kept insisting that she call back the following Monday. Undaunted, Weldon pleaded with him to connect her to anybody who was in the office that day. It turned out to be Daisy Cruz, working overtime at the IT section. It was this IT staffer who got Weldon in touch with Averia.

Green light

"I didn't know who Denise Weldon was, but she sounded sincere and earnest," recalls Averia. "I answered her call with the thought of making my first sale for the year. She inquired about the price of a brand new mobile X-ray unit, but found it way too high for their budget."

She continues: "As we were talking, I realized the magnitude of the tragedy. I wanted to help. Selling took a back seat and I remembered an old X-ray unit in the warehouse."

Averia then texted colleagues in the Philippines and Singapore about the possibility of loaning the old unit. She got the green light, but in the end, the GE Healthcare Management decided to donate a brand new mobile X-ray unit. "It's for a good cause," declared Averia's Singapore boss, Arun Sharma, the general manager of GEHC Southeast Asia.

Not content with facilitating the donation, Averia also tapped friends in the industry for the additional items needed to run the machine: Antonio C. Tan, Jr., country manager for Kodak Phils. donated the X-ray film. Her brother-in-law, Rene Q. delos Reyes, national sales manager of Glaxo-Smith Kline, responded with donations of oral hygiene supplies. Averia also passed on the plea for help to another colleague, Hermie Limbo, business manager for ultrasound, who pitched in with a Logiq XP ultrasound machine..

"I wanted to help within my capacity," says Averia. "With God's intervention, things just fell into place."

Long-term solution

"The donated machines are even more advanced than those being used in some Manila hospitals," notes Miñana, adding that Dr. Ernesto Cahoy, who has been with the Anahawan hospital for 20 years, is presently training people to use the brand new units.

A generator was donated next, part of Miñana's response to his father's appeal for them to offer a long-term solution to the problems of Guinsaugon by supporting its health care system.

The donated equipment were turned over after Holy Week in April, with Averia, the Miñana couple and Manny's mother, Rosario attending the turnover rites in Anahawan. She was overwhelmed by the warm reception she got, says Averia. "They made me feel like a hero," she says. "They were very gracious, they even had streamers with my name on it, and hosted a dinner for us."

Asked to deliver a speech, Averia recalls saying, "I have never been to Leyte before because there was no reason for me to be here. Manny and Denise have long existed but I never knew them, but God has brought us together."

For Averia, a nursing graduate who never got to practice her profession, the donation to the Anahawan hospital meant a lot. At last, she had rendered service to a medical facility, if only vicariously.

Averia had always wanted to be part of the Air Force as a flight nurse, but fate led her to several pharmaceutical companies where she sold vaccines, and later to GE, where she started as an account executive in 1994. One of eight siblings, she is "married to GE," laughs Averia, 51, about her civil status. On weekdays, she is a corporate woman, she says, but weekends find her "decorating and beautifying" her new house, or spoiling her nieces and nephews, "the biggest stimulants in my life."

A balanced life

She adds: "I try to balance my life. I make sure that on weekends, I do things for myself to keep my sanity."

The Anahawan donation has taught her a lot, says Averia. "I have learned that there are no real barriers when responding to cries for help. The willingness to help is an instinct that not only comes from the mind but also from the heart. I'm very thankful and proud to be employed by a company that has the social sensitivity to respond to such needs."

Weldon and Miñana agree wholeheartedly. "This is a story about angels, about wanting to make your life useful," notes Weldon.

Adds Miñana: "It felt so good to be in the midst of tragedy and to see the best of people. You think you have shared something, but you are actually the recipient of grace. In wanting to go beyond yourself, you become a vessel of grace. You then realize that in the midst of all this tragedy, life is still good."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"Vessel of grace": Averia (left) with Southern Leyte Gov. Rosette Lerias and Anahawan Mayor Jose Miñana at the turnover ceremonies

Businesswatch

by Marian C. Martin

from sculpting clay to gum paste icing, this Fine Arts graduate has found that life can be a piece of cake

Karla Magbanua bakes in a lot of humor into her customized art pieces that look too good to be eaten

IMAGINE a cake decorated with a pair of sugar eyeballs, or fat little pink sugar piglets, or a frosted jeep climbing a mountain. Then imagine sinking your teeth into one of these confectionary creations and being delightfully surprised to savor the sinful richness of dark, moist chocolate underneath the beautiful frosting.

Karla Magbanua of Claycakes began offering these delights to clients when she first began baking custom made cakes in 2001.

Today, Magbanua has orders as far ahead as year 2007, averages four cake orders every week, has a website (www.claycakes.com) and regularly joins bridal fairs. Claycakes has become a byword for the originality, whimsical quality and humor of Magbanua's cake designs, which she conceptualizes for each client.

Signature figures

"I don't have a catalogue," she reveals. She sits down with every client and in minutes, sketches a design based on their wishes, personalities, or themes. She does have a kind of signature, the round-faced miniature figures she creates to represent the bride and groom on her wedding cakes which constitute the majority of her orders.

Magbanua has carved out a niche for herself with what she calls her claycakes, so called because of the versatility of shapes and designs that she creates out of fondant and gum paste. The UP Fine Arts graduate also used to sculpt with clay

The business spun off from Magbanua's idea of making her own cake for her son Enzo's first birthday in 2001. She recalls, "I was tying to find a (cake decorating) course but I couldn't find anyone who could teach what I wanted to learn. I ended up experimenting."

Despite the colors ending up lighter than she would wanted them, Karla's first under-the-sea-theme birthday cake was a smash hit among the 50 guests who thought the cake was a bakeshop product. Bubbles, seahorses, fish, lobsters, sea weed and starfish cascaded down the side of the cake. Encouraged, Magbanua continued to experiment in her mother-in-law's kitchen, coming up with little chiffon cakes. One of her earliest orders was for a wedding cake for her husband Tristan's cousin. After that, orders started trickling in.

For an optometrist couple who wanted their cake to show their profession, Magbanua fashioned her now famous eyeball design, a theme she has developed into her signature pingpong ball-headed bride-and-groom figures. For a movie-loving couple, she decorated the cake with figures from the movies "The Princess Bride," "Forrest Gump" and "Monsters, Inc.," while showing the couple seated on a tub of movie house popcorn. The giveaways were cakes as tubs of popcorn.

Unique designs

Each cake is individual and client-specific. Magbanua explains, "I normally assess the needs of my clients and base the design on their givens. We consider the venue, if there's a stylist or florist, little considerations like that. Some couples go traditional and very classic with the whole wedding but with the cake, they go all out."

Magbanua says the couples who go for her unique designs are very individualistic. "They're very serious about style and they're not afraid to show it in their cake." The couples' mothers tend to be taken aback by the funkiness of the designs, but always Magbanua's claycakes manage to become conversation pieces. She once made a cake with a sandcastle design for a couple who wanted a very informal, laid back wedding on the beach.

Prices usually begin at P10,000.

Magbanua conducts research for some designs. She had to look at photos of the CJR7 Renegade jeep and consult male friends after a travel-loving German-Filipino couple asked for a cake showing them on the road in their beloved jeep. She fashioned the jeep on the cake and showed it maneuvering up a mountain side.

Popular pig

The most popular of Magbanua's creations is a pink sugar pig which she created as giveaways for the wedding of a couple who owned a piggery in Batangas. The guests grabbed the pigs before they could be wrapped in doilies for giving away.

Some might say that her cakes look too good to be eaten, but Magbanua encourages guests to eat her cakes which are usually chocolate cake or lemon crumb. She says guests are surprised at the luscious taste and texture of the cakes. The taste is part of the claycakes signature, she adds.

With the claycakes' success, can copycat cakes be far behind?

Magbanua admits, "Some are popping up. It's actually flattering. But we try to vary (our designs). Anyone can do the miniatures but an honest reflection in your funkiest, funniest, or cheesiest is the idea behind it." She is confident that her ability to interpret her clients' unique ideas into the wildly original, ingenuous designs of her cakes will keep Claycakes around for a long time.

Certainly, the couples who revel in the humor and delight of Magbanua's claycakes may be making a sweet start to their married life. ◼

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sweet start. Magbanua shows off her personalized wedding cakes

AUGUST DE LA CRUZ

This Week

Art

Time beyond lines, abstract paintings by Ruel Caasi until July 5 at The Drawing Room, G/F, Metrostar Building, 1007 Metropolitan Avenue, Makati City.

A Bowtie For John Lyle, paintings where the artist plays a bit of a comical homage to his musician father by Lyle Buencamino at Mag:net Gallery ABS, The Loop, ABS-CBN Compound., QC, tel. 410-0995, opens on July 4.

Imaje Nacion / Imagined Nation, a collection of multimedia pieces by Don Maralit Salubayba composed of wall-bound works, video pieces and puppets about how our country came to be a nation, until July 9 at the CCP Bulwagang Fernando Amorsolo.

ONE, first solo exhibit of Teresita C. Mapua that chronicles the experiences of every overseas Filipino worker's unfolding journey at the Gallery Genesis, 4/L, SM Megamall A until July 12. For details, call 633-8137.

Long Goodbye, a group show curated by Roberto Chabet that includes the works of Poklong Anading, Lena Cobangbang, Al Cruz, Bembol de la Cruz, Ranelle Dial, Nilo Ilarde, Paolo Martinez, Jet Melencio, Jonathan Olazo, Jayson Oliveria, Gary Ross Pastrana, Jucar Raquepo, Italo Z. Tajo, Alvin Villaruel, MM Yu at Mag:net Gallery Katipunan, Agcor Bldg, 335 Katipunan Ave, QC, tel. 9293191, until July 8.

Cinema

UP Film Institute's schedule of screenings: "Coach Carter," July 3, 5 p.m.; "Who's Your Daddy," July 10, 5 p.m.; "Wild Orchid (Two Shades of Blue)," July 17, 5 p.m.; "She's the Man," July 20, 5 p.m.; "V for Vendetta," July 6, 5 p.m.; "Wild Side," July 13, 5 p.m.; "Happy Together," July 3, 7:30 p.m.; "Formula 17," July 5, 5 p.m.; "Wild Side," July 13, 7 p.m. Annual Award-Winners Showcase: "Brokeback Mountain," July 11, 5 p.m.; "The 40 Year Old Virgin," July 12, 5 p.m. ; "Merry Christmas," July 13, 5 p.m.; "Wallace and Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit," July 19, 5 p.m.; "Memoirs of a Geisha," July 25, 5 p.m.; "Munich," July 27, 5 p.m. Added Features: "X-Men 3," July 18, 5 p.m.; "Over the Hedge," July 24, 5 p.m. For queries, call cinema hotline 926-3640, 926-2722 (telefax).

Onstage

Dulaang UP opens its 31st season with **Shadows of the Reef**, written and directed by Anton Juan. The play is about the life of a young muro-ami diver and his mother who wants to be crucified for sending her own son to death. It will run from July 12 to 30 at the Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero Theater, 2/F Palma Hall, UP Diliman, QC. For inquiries, call 926-1349.

Koine One Acts presents Niel de Mesa's one-act play, ***Matapos ang Yihee***, a provocative play for young couple experiencing the reconstruction of ego-boundaries. The play will be staged Fridays and Saturdays of July (July 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29) at 7:30 p.m. at the 2/F Forab Building, 121 Kamuning Road, QC. It will run in tandem with **Old Apologies**, a short comedy about a late-date and guy who can shame any creative writing major with his lucid but incoherent lies. Call 410-4485 to reserve seats.

Music

Mag:net Café Performances: July 3—Day One, Cybelle's Robe, Lysosome, Neruda; July 4—Up Dharma Down; July 5—Jazz Night: Johnny Alegre Affinity and Dirty Kitchen; July 6—Dongabay; July 7—Gene Pool, Formula Juan, Sideshow, The Spoons, Mushroom 5 and Cutchie Inna Balmyard; July 8—CD Launch-Mayonnaise, Sun Flower Day Camp and Marcus. (Mag:net Café, 335 Katipunan Ave, Loyola Heights. QC. Tel. 929-3191.

The MCO Foundation and Equitable PCI Bank celebrate the 250th anniversary of Mozart in a **concert featuring pianist Aries Caces** on July 7, 7:30 p.m. at Equitable PCI Bank Tower I's Francisco Santiago Hall in Makati City. Concert repertoire will include Mozart's "Rondo in D Major, K. 485," "Fantasy in D Minor, K. 385," "Sonata in D Major, K. 284," "Dürnitz," and Lizst's "Grandes Etudes de Paganini." For ticket inquiries, call the MCO Secretariat at 878-3459.

Atbp

Join guide Ivan ManDy as he horses around and takes visitors to discover Old Manila's culinary and historical delights in **The BIG Binondo Food Wok** on July 8 and 22. Meet inside the Binondo Church at 1 p.m. Also join **Power, Palace and a Shot of Beer: A San Miguel District Walk** on July 15. For details, log on to www.oldmanilawalks.com or text 0917-3291622.

Sining Sambaydiwa and Teatro Frisco will hold a joint **Saturday Drama Workshop: Acting Onstage and On Camera** for children, teens and adults to be held at the Ninoy Aquino Park and Wildlife Nature Center, Diliman, QC. The workshop will begin on July 22 and will continue every Saturday thereafter until Sept. 30 with morning and afternoon sessions. Registration at the Ninoy Aquino Park will be on July 8 and 15, 1 to 5 p.m. Weekday registration will be from July 3-14 at 7-A Macario Rivera St., Barangay Mariblo, SFDM, QC. For details, call 376-2267.

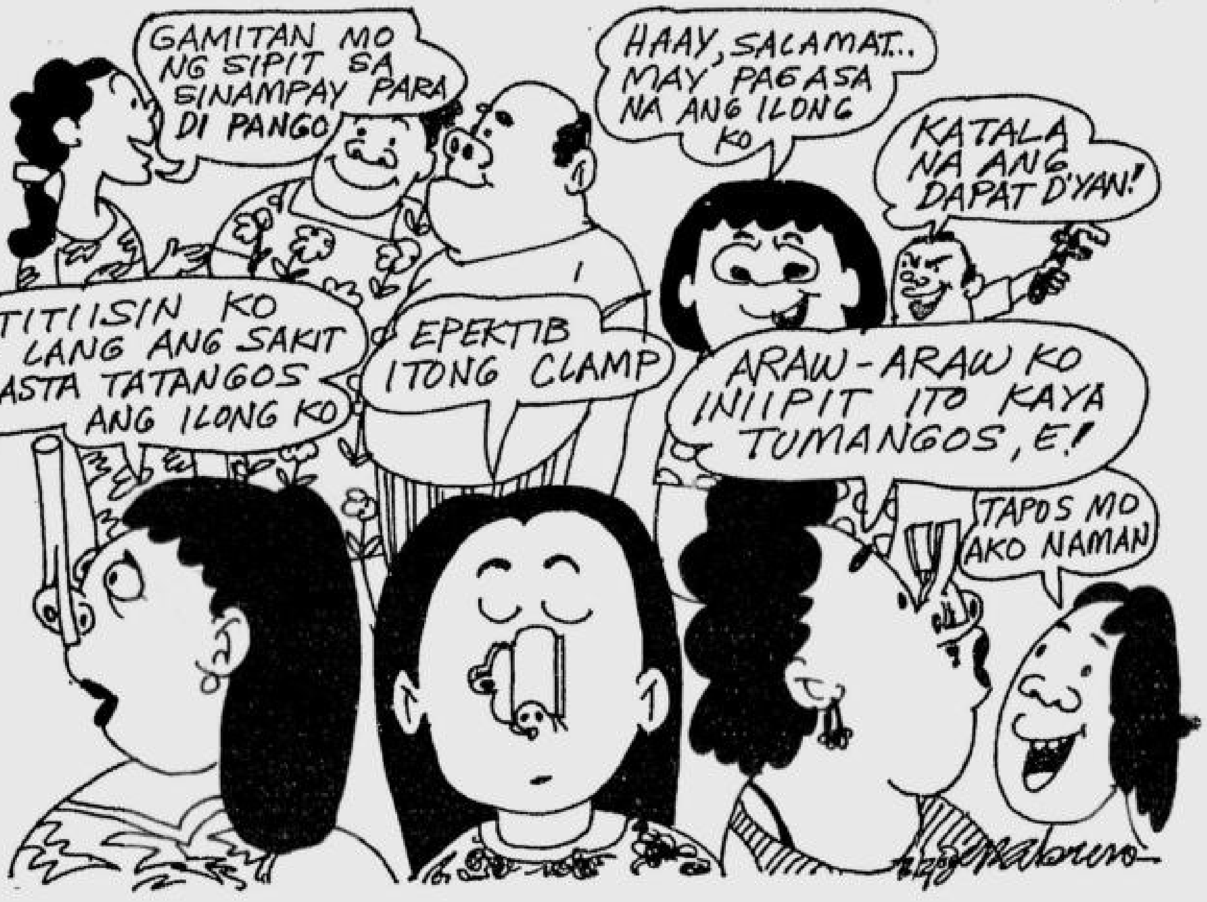
X-manila

All in the Timing, a series of one-act comedies to be performed by award-winning UK theater group Peepolykus at Liceo de Cagayan's Rodelsa Hall in Cagayan de Oro on July 3 and 4. For tickets, call tel. (088) 858-4093 local 107.

Pinoy Nga!

by Jess Abrera

Sipit


GAMITAN MO NG SIPIT SA SINAMPAY PARA DI PANGO
HAAY, SALAMAT.. MAY PAGASA NA ANG ILONG KO
KATALA NA ANG DAPAT D'YAN!
TITIISIN KO NA LANG ANG SAKIT BASTA TATANGOS ANG ILONG KO
EPEKTIB ITONG CLAMP
ARAW-ARAW KO INIIPIT ITO KAYA TUMANGOS, E.!
TAPOS MO AKO NAMAN

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

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SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

8		1			9			3
					7			
		3				7		5
5	2							
			6		2			
							8	6
9		7				8		
			5					
4			3			1		7

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

7/02

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Answer to previous puzzle

4	7	2	6	5	9	1	3	8
6	8	1	7	3	4	2	5	9
5	9	3	1	8	2	4	7	6
7	1	6	5	2	3	9	8	4
9	3	8	4	6	1	5	2	7
2	4	5	9	7	8	3	6	1
1	2	7	8	9	5	6	4	3
3	6	4	2	1	7	8	9	5
8	5	9	3	4	6	7	1	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★

7/01

LoveNotes

by Joe 'D Mango

Desperately seeking closure

I want to hug her and sincerely apologize for forcing her to kill an innocent child growing inside her

Dear Joe,

Just call me Jaime, in my mid-30s, working at a bank, married with two kids; you know, just your ordinary dude. Thirteen years back, I was your certified bum. I did nothing but go out and spend my parents' money on wine and women. Then I met someone who is now my wife. We got married 12 years ago just because she got pregnant. I strongly felt that it was time to stop running away from my responsibilities and face my problems squarely. A few months after we got married and a few days after she gave birth to our first child, I was able to land a job at a bank.

Everything was domestically okay for me, until two years after my marriage, I met Dabs, a manager of an appliance store near the bank were I worked. She was pretty, had beautiful long legs, and a mysterious aura. My curiosity overcame my caution, and I started a conversation with her. It turned out that she was separated from her husband and taking care of one kid. We became very good friends.

Word got around and reached my wife, who suspected that I was having an affair. Back then I wasn't. Dabs was simply a friend whom I considered to be very close to me. Still, my wife went to Dabs' workplace, confronted her, and demanded that she stop seeing me. But our conscience back then was clear; we were not doing anything wrong. Despite my wife's objections, I continued to see her, until I realized that I was falling in love with her.

Suffice to say that we had an affair. I reached a decision back then to leave my family, despite my wife giving birth to our second child. All I wanted was to be with Dabs. She became my world, my life. I loved her; she loved me back. I found complete acceptance from someone whom I truly loved.

Everything was set: we were to move to Manila and start our lives over. Until my father meddled, he being a very influential person in our place. In short, Dabs was terminated from work and I was put in the care of a priest until he could knock some sense into my head. We were forcibly separated from each other.

But secretly we kept in touch. I would go on secret trips to Manila just to spend time with her. Whenever she would come home to our town to see her kid, I would find ways to see her clandestinely. It was the ultimate thrill of my life back then.

Our hide-and-seek relationship went on for seven years. I was hesitant to leave my family for fear that I wouldn't see my kids anymore. I kept telling everyone that I was going on the straight and narrow path to faithfulness and monogamy. I wanted Dabs and my kids. By continuing with this setup, I was having the best of both worlds. I still loved her, truly loved her. Until last year.

Dabs became insistent that we continue our plan to move in together. By now I was already having second thoughts about it. I've started to learn to love my wife. I've started to enjoy family life. You know, a quiet family life. But then, in October of last year, Dabs confronted me with something that felt like the whole world collapsed on me: she was pregnant. She asked me about my reaction and my plans, and I told her I had none.

During that time, I was having problems of my own at work. The situation of Dabs getting pregnant was farthest from my priorities. I asked her what she felt about the situation, and she answered that she has a career to take care of. Simply put, she didn't want the kid. I told her to do what she wanted to do, and she said that she wanted to get an abortion. In another classic case of me running away from responsibility, I agreed. She asked that I accompany her, and I told her that I was too busy with work. She completely went ballistic and was crying and angry at the same time. Just to stop her from making a scene, I told her that I take full responsibility for her actions. After her abortion, she called me several times, but I was completely cold to her. I simply wanted out of this relationship, Joe. It has been nine years of lies, of adultery and sin. I have had enough.

It's been more than five months since I last saw or heard anything about Dabs. I feel guilty for what I've done to her. For not ending the relationship before she got pregnant. For not telling her that the reason I kept on seeing her and being with her was to satisfy her, not because I still love her. Joe, I wanted to apologize to her, to say that I was a complete jerk, but I do not know where she is. She resigned from her job and nobody could not say where she went.

I want to hug her and sincerely apologize for what I've done to her. For forcing her to kill an innocent child growing inside her. It came to a point where the pressure of guilt bothered me so much that I got a gun and pointed it to my head, but when I pulled the trigger, the gun didn't go off.

Joe, could you please let Dabs know that I am truly sorry for what I've done to her? Could you please ask her to get in touch with me so that I could apologize to her? We both listen to your program often, and she would always turn silent whenever the letter sender's topic would include a love triangle.

What do I have to do, Joe, to get this guilt out of my system? My work is suffering. My family has suffered enough from my indiscretions. I am suffering from my stupidity and callousness. Please help me out, Joe. I am seeking closure on this issue. Redemption, maybe. But forgiveness from Dabs, definitely.

Jaime

Dear Jaime,

I know for a fact that one of man's greatest weakness is his incessant craving to satisfy his selfish desires. You married your wife because she was pregnant and not because your really loved her then. You took the vow of marriage for the wrong reason.

Then, the biggest test came. Someone you thought you loved more than your family came and turned your world around. You became obsessed with the thought of moving in with Dabs in the hope of starting a new life with her.

God wanted you to keep your family so he made a way for you to stay. But your will to do what you wanted prevailed. You got Dabs pregnant only to find out that a life with her is not what you wanted after all. But the damage has been done and it was aggravated by the fact that you even consented to having your baby aborted. You ran away and now, you are being haunted by the guilt of your own dark past.

Jaime, no matter how difficult life may seem to be, it is still what we make it. All of these happened because you wanted and allowed them to happen. But I know that your feeling of guilt is a sign that you are a moral and responsible person. Many of us continue to struggle with guilt and the inability to forgive ourselves. But, if we cannot forgive ourselves, we simply cannot go on.

I hope Dabs is listening now. She probably has left everything behind but if she is still carrying the burden of hatred for you, then I hope this letter would make her realize how sorry you truly are for hurting her and making her life miserable. Let us always remember that hatred will just consume us until there is no more space for mercy. What's done is done but the power of forgiveness can change our lives forever.

Jaime, you cannot control the past nor can you really control the future. What you can control 100 percent is this moment. Learn to forgive yourself. Redemption will come when God sees the pureness of your heart and the sincerity of your intentions. Continue to love your family and be faithful to your wife. Live your life as a sacrifice to prove to everyone that you really want to change to become a better son to your parents, a better father to your children and a better husband to your wife.

LoveNotes is heard every Friday at 10:15 a.m. with replays at 7 p.m. on Wave 89.1 FM. Get your daily love quotes from Joe D' Mango via SMS by texting ON DEARJOE to 2968. Visit the official Lovenotes website at www.lovenotes.fm

A toast to an advertising giant

THE DDB GROUP OF COMPANIES (DDB Philippines and its affiliate company Ad Verbum PR Inc, Rapp Collins, Dm9 JaymeSyfu,) led by its chair Lito de Joya and group president and CEO Gil G. Chua, were joined by leaders from the Philippines' most iconic companies and other A-list clients, media friends and advertising colleagues at the posh Tower Club in Makati last June 7. Guests enjoyed an evening of cocktails and great music to honor the late Ken Kaess, former president and chief executive officer of DDB Worldwide.

In town for the occasion was John Zeigler, DDB Asia Pacific president and chief executive officer. Zeigler is responsible for DDB's people, brands and business performance in 14 countries and close to a 1000 staff. He served as former chair of Tribal DDB Worldwide, the world's leading interactive advertising agency network where he oversaw the company's growth to 25 offices in 19 countries Accompanying Zeigler was Duy Quang, chief financial officer of DDB Asia Pacific.

Earlier in the day, Messrs. Zeigler and Duy Quang, led the DDB Group of Companies' management and staff, in planting 400 trees and to support the call to protect the La Mesa watershed. While the business of creative, effective, and relevant communications was his job during his 10 year tenure, Kaess is remembered by his colleagues for his people-focused spirit and his call to "Unleash Your Potential" to DDB's worldwide personnel at the Asia Pacific Conference in Shanghai last year in September.

DDB Philippines, through its DDB Cares initiative, has been involved in various philanthropic activities, including Energy Conservation, Children's Lab, the Philippine Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting, and Radio Veritas.

DDB has been twice named The Gunn Report's Most Awarded Agency Network, Adweek's Global Agency and Ad Age's Global Network of the Year. DDB is a four-time winner of the Clio Agency Network of the Year, and has won more awards than any other network in the history of the Cannes International Advertising Festival. Global Interactive subsidiary Tribal DDB was named Adweek's Interactive Agency of the Year for 2005.

DDB's prime movers: DDB Philippines chair Lito de Joya, DDB Asia Pacific chair John Zeigler, vice chair Susan Dimacali, group president and CEO Gil Chua, CFO Roger Torres, DDB managing director Manny Gutierrez raise a toast to guests.

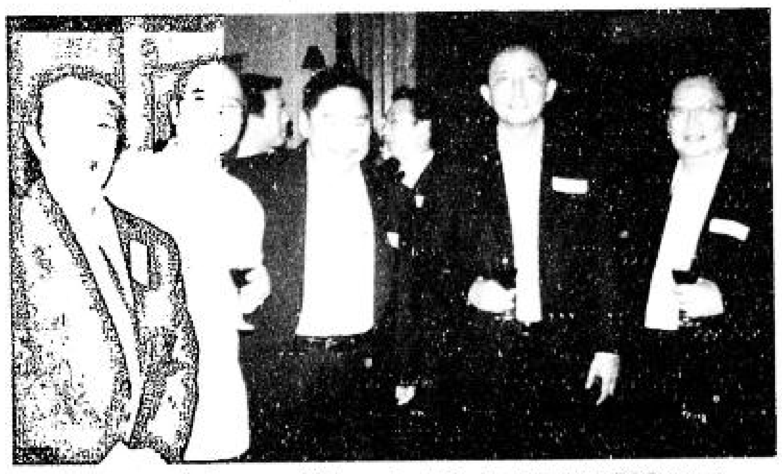
ABC 5 managing director for news and entertainment Bobby Barreiro and PLDT SVP-retail business group Butch Jimenez with DDB Phil's Gil Chua, Lito de Joya and Roy Santiago.

PEPSI vice president Maricel Narciso (2nd from left) with DDB's Pepsi Team Maryjo Dino, Vina Gayoso and DDB Asia Pacific president and CEO John Zeigler.

INQUIRER advertising VP Pepito Olarte, PLDT AVP for marketing services Raul Alvarez, DDB CFO Roger Torres and OMD executive vice president Ador Perez.

MCDONALD'S marketing VP Margot Torres with Smart group head manager for sales, distribution and marketing Ricky Isla.

DDB's Nonon del Carmen, DM9's Marj Aznar and DDB Asia Pacific chief finance officer Duy Quang.


OMD chair Antonio Samson, GV broadcast director Doy Vea, DDB group president and CEO Gil Chua, PLDT/Smart president and CEO Napoleon 'Polly' Nazareno and Federal Phoenix Assurance president Ramon Dimacali.

DDB's HR manager Julie de Joya, DDB AdVerbum PR head Bonjin Bolinao and Creative Rapp Collins creative wiz Roger Pe.

Ceriola wins 5th SM Bowling Cup

Christian Albert Ceriola recently drove home a brand new Nissan Sentra when he won the recently concluded 5th SM Bowling Cup Grand Finals at his home Bowling Center at the SM Megamall.

Jeremy Chui of SM City North Edsa and Leticia Pineda of SM City Fairview placed 2nd and 3rd respectively. Chui received a P50,000 cash prize, while Pineda took home P25,000.

The SM Bowling Cup, an intercenter competition for male and female bowlers in Metro Manila and Cebu, is to date the most prestigious and grandest bowling tournament in the country, giving away great prizes and incentives for outstanding bowlers.

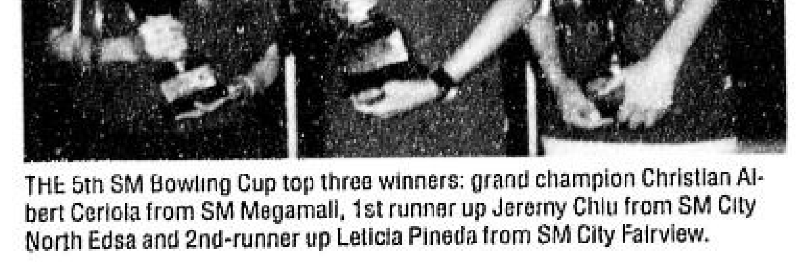
Apart from the tournament champions, Perfect Game Winners Sammy Say Sy, Jhake Santos, Alex Ngoi Jr, Mar Serac and Jong Enriquez were also awarded P100,000 in cash.

What made the tournament even more fun was the Grand Raffle Draw wherein all participants had the chance to win exciting prizes. Lucky bowler Henry Murao won the Grand Prize, a brand new Nissan Sentra. Four other lucky winners - Johnson Cortez, Fransceco Angelo Villaflor, Santos Bautista, and JC Cabacungan - were awarded round trip tickets for two to Hongkong Disneyland.

Other participants brought home television sets: Millan Cabia with a Sony Home Theater System; Danny Tuazon and Rogelio Balanay, each with a Sharp Flat 29"; Stanley Cris Iarano and Rose Avena, each with a Polytron Flat 29" TV; and Kim Ian Chi with a Promac 21" TV.

Three Lexmark 735 Color Jetprinters, five DVD players, and double bowling bags were also raffled during the draw.

The 5th SM Bowling Cup is a joint project of the SM Leisure Center, Nissan, Mercantile Insurance Company of the Philippines, Philippine Airlines, Pepsi, Nature's Spring, San Miguel, Red Bull, Golden Duck Johnson Diversey, Sustagen Premium, Akari, Boss Pro Shop, Shangri-La Finest Chinese Cuisine, Monde Nissin, and Array Technology. Media partners include the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Love Radio and Yes FM. It is one of the many exciting events of the SM Bowling Centers in SM Megamall, SM City North Eda, SM City Fairview and SM City Cebu.


THE 5th SM Bowling Cup top three winners: grand champion Christian Albert Ceriola from SM Megamall, 1st runner up Jeremy Chiu from SM City North Edsa and 2nd-runner up Leticia Pineda from SM City Fairview.

A night of salsa at One Legazpi Park

IT WAS A GRAND EVENING FILLED WITH music and dancing as Ayala Land Premier hosted an exclusive salsa party to welcome residents of the newly completed One Legazpi Park.

A sumptuous buffet prepared by Café Havana awaited guests, who enjoyed delicious Cuban hors d' oeuvres like plantains and salsa, chicken churrasco, and gambas fritos. Cocktail punch flowed all through the evening as the residents watched a performance by seasoned salsa dancers who enjoined guests to groove to the Latin beats performed by the night's entertaining band.

The highlight of the evening was the unveiling of a magnificent sculpture by Filipino artist Eduardo Castrillo, a National Heritage and Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) awardee. Nominated for the prestigious National Artist title, Castrillo's 40-year career is marked by world-renowned monuments and various artistic expressions that have made him a phenomenon in the Philippine art scene. For Ayala Land Premier, Castrillo has created "Focal Form", a grand work of art which now dominates the front driveway of One Legazpi Park and serves to once again underscore the understated elegance of one of Manila's most coveted addresses.

The salsa party itself is also a reflection of Ayala Land Premier's unceasing attention to detail in giving its residents a taste of the good life. Says Angela De Villa-Lacson, head of Ayala Land Premier, "This event really is just to celebrate and welcome all of our guests to their new home at One Legazpi Park. Here, they will enjoy exclusivity, security, privacy and comfort – all the important elements that Ayala Land Premier is committed to."

One Legazpi Park is one of Ayala Land Premier's top residential building developments, offering the comfort and style of urban living right in the heart of cosmopolitan Makati. Residents of this elegant address enjoy the convenience of being minutes away from the bustling business district as well as easy access to Greenbelt and Glorietta, two of Manila's first-class shopping and recreational centers. One Legazpi Park also boasts of top-class amenities that will make city living a most comfortable and enjoyable experience.

Launched in 2002, One Legazpi Park was completed earlier than promised, with Ayala Land Premier opening the doors of this 45-storey residential building to new residents last December 2005. This achievement tops the many accolades the multi-awarded condominium has already garnered, which included the award for being the Safest and Best Project in 2003, given by the local government of Makati City. One Legazpi Park was also given the 5 Million Safe Man Hours award by its general contractor EEI Corporation.

Proof that One Legazpi Park is one of Makati's most wanted addresses is the fact that all units were sold during the construction period – a feat in the highly competitive world of real estate. While other condominiums stand complete yet without owners, One Legazpi Park now has a thriving community enjoying all the benefits of living in this exclusive development – a testament to the solid and undisputable history of integrity and reliability, only from Ayala Land Premier.

Ayala Land Premier (ALP) is the new name for the top-end developments of Ayala Land providing exclusivity, security, ultimate comfort, and privacy. It embodies Ayala Land's trademark legacy of enhancing the residents' quality of life with its portfolio of prime locations and trophy addresses. With its superior customer care and property management, ALP ensures exclusivity and value over time.

For further information about Ayala Land Premier projects, please call 728-7000, log on to www.ayalalandpremier.com, or e-mail ayala-ask@ayalalandpremier.com.

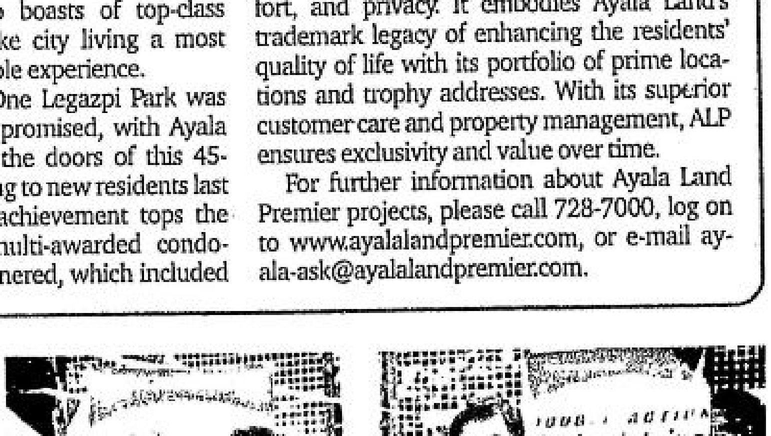
1st Globe Bizfair set

IN ORDER TO PROVIDE VALUABLE SUPPORT TO BUDDING AND medium-scale enterprises all over the country, Globe Telecom holds its first Bizfair on June 29 to July 2, at the Megatrade Hall 3, 5th Level, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

A special four-day event touted as a "one-stop shop" for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), Bizfair '06 brings together products, technology, and product and innovation talks designed to boost one's business. Participants get to enjoy event-exclusive promotional offers on all its product offerings - Globe Handyphone plans (including one-day activation of postpaid applications with complete requirements), Globelines and Globe Broadband.

Guests can take advantage of free access to Globe mobile services, Broadband and WiFi during the event. Bizfair '06 also equips Filipino SMEs with business tools and applications and provides them with innovative business ideas with its product and innovation talks and interesting product showcases. Aside from Globe Telecom, the event will be participated in by ICT vendors and business support establishments, like mobile handset manufacturers, hardware and software suppliers, system integrators, banks, ICT and business schools and publications. Attendees can also watch out for 3G phones will that be raffled off daily.

Globe Bizfair '06 will have a second leg at the SM City Cebu Trade Hall 3 on July 13 to 16. Please e-mail inquiries to customercare@innove.com.ph.



UNILAB, CDO TO FIGHT MALNUTRITION TOGETHER

Raymund Santiago (second from left), corporate affairs officer of United Laboratories Inc shakes hands with Dindo Danao, executive director of Odyssey Foundation Inc after the formal launch of their partnership to save children out of malnutrition and provide medicines to poor people. Witnesses to the simple ceremony were Liel Dizon of Unilab's consumer health division and Lyann Erguiza, social worker of Odyssey Foundation. Odyssey is the corporate social responsibility arm of CDO-Foodsphere Inc. The Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI) claims that some 3.7 million Filipino children aged 1 to 5 are undernourished.